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THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 912.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1863.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE PATRONAGE and CONTROL will be held on TUESDAY EVENING, May 5th, at FREEMASONS' HALL.

Full particulars will be announced next week.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Serjeants'-Inn, Fleet-street.

SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELI- GION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

It is requested that all SUBSCRIPTIONS belonging to the financial year 1862-3, which have not yet been paid, may be remitted before the 30th April in favour of WM. EDWARDS, Esq., the Treasurer.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Serjeants'-Inn, Fleet-street, London.

OPENING OF THE
NEW INDEPENDENT CHAPEL,
BROADWAY, HAMMERSMITH.

THE ABOVE CHAPEL WILL BE OPENED FOR DIVINE SERVICE

On TUESDAY, APRIL 22nd, 1863.

The Service will commence at Twelve o'clock, noon.

THE FIRST SERMON WILL BE PREACHED BY

THE REV. SAMUEL MARTIN,

Of Westminster.

In the Evening the Service will commence at half-past Six o'clock.

THE SERMON WILL BE PREACHED BY

THE REV. JAMES HAMILTON, D.D.,

Of Regent-square.

A Cold Collation will be provided in the School-room, at Half-past Two o'clock p.m., and Tea at Five. After the Collation Addresses will be delivered by several Ministers and Friends. The Chair will be taken by

ROBERT HANBURY, ESQ., M.P.

Tickets for the Collation, 2s. 6d.—for Tea, 1s. each—may be had at Mr. Page's, 9, Angel-terrace; Mr. Hatch's, King-street; Mr. Churchman's, Broadway; or at the Vestry after the Morning Service.

On LORD'S DAY, MAY 3rd,

THE REV. ROBERT VAUGHAN, D.D.,

WILL PREACH IN THE MORNING AND EVENING, AND

THE REV. WM. LANDELS,

Of Regent's-park Chapel,

IN THE AFTERNOON.

Divine Service will commence in the Morning at Eleven, Afternoon at Three, and Evening at Half-past Six o'clock.

A Collection will be made at the close of each Service in aid of the Building Fund.

MAY-DAY LECTURE—STEPNEY.

The 190th MAY-DAY LECTURE to the YOUNG at STEPNEY will be delivered by the Rev. JOHN KENNEDY, M.A., in OLD STEPNEY MEETING-HOUSE, on FRIDAY, May 1, 1863. It will be the last in the Old Meeting-House. Service to begin at Seven P.M.

THE FOUNDATION—STONE of the ABBEY-ROAD CHAPEL, St. JOHN'S-WOOD, will be LAID (D.V.) on MONDAY, 27th April, 1863, at Four o'clock p.m., by H. KELSALL, Esq., of Rochdale; after which, a MEETING will be held at the EYRE ARMS ASSEMBLY-ROOMS, when Sir M. Peto, and the Revs. J. P. CHOWN, H. CHRISTOPHERSON, N. HAYCROFT, J. GRAHAM, C. VINCE, and J. C. GALLAWAY, will take part in the proceedings.

PARIS CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL,

23, RUE ROYALE, NEAR THE MADELAINE.

Divine Service, Lord's Day, 11 a.m., and 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday Evenings at 7.30 p.m.

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS received by

ROBERT ASHTON, Secretary.

Congregational Library.

POLAND.—The CENTRAL COMMITTEE of the FRIENDS of POLAND, authorised by the delegate of the Polish National Government, earnestly ASK for immediate SUBSCRIPTIONS to the account of their Treasurer, P. A. Taylor, Esq., M.P., at Messrs. Oldings, Osborne, and Co.'s, Clement's-lane, E.C., or by money order to their Secretary, Mr. W. E. Adams, 10, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.

TEMPORARY IRON BUILDING for

SALE.

The METROPOLITAN BOARD of WORKS hereby give Notice that they are prepared to receive OFFERS for the PURCHASE of an IRON BUILDING of the following dimensions, viz., 70 feet by 30 feet, and 12 feet to the roof-plate. The Building was constructed by Messrs. Hemming for the purpose of testing gas meters, and is situated in the new Southwark-street, and may be viewed any day between Nine and Five, on application at the Meter-testing-office, in Castle-street adjoining. The tenders are to be addressed to the Clerk of the Board, at this Office.

JOHN POLLARD, Clerk of the Board.

Spring-gardens, March 26, 1863.

CITY WELLINGTON RESTAURANT,

60, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

CLERGYMEN and GENTLEMEN visiting London, are respectfully informed that the above favourite DINING-HOUSE maintains its old-established character for excellence, attention, and economical charges.

Soups, Entrees, Joints, &c., of the first quality. Wines and Spirits of the highest character.

Ladies' Dining-rooms, with female attendants.

Thomas Chalmers, Proprietor.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.
SEVENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

THURSDAY, April 23rd.

A MEETING for PRAYER in the LIBRARY of the MISSION HOUSE; Morning, Eleven o'clock. The Rev. Dr. HOBY, of London, to preside.

In the Evening, at KINGSGATE-STREET CHAPEL, at Half-past Six o'clock, the ANNUAL MEETING of the BIBLE TRANSLATION SOCIETY will be held. Rev. JOSHUA RUSSELL in the Chair.

FRIDAY, April 24th.

WELSH SERMON.—A Sermon will be preached in the Welsh Language, on behalf of the Society, in SALTER'S HALL CHAPEL, CANNON-STREET, in the Evening, by the Rev. HUGH W. JONES, of Carmarthen. The entire Service will be in Welsh, and will commence at Seven o'clock.

LORD'S DAY, April 25th.

SERMONS will be preached on behalf of the Society, in the Baptist Chapels of the Metropolis. (For particulars, see the "Missionary Herald" for April.)

THURSDAY, APRIL 28th.

ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING.—The Annual General Meeting of Members of the Society will be held in the LIBRARY, at the MISSION HOUSE. Chair to be taken at Ten o'clock. This Meeting is for Members only. All Subscribers of 10s. 6d. or upwards, Donors of 10s. or upwards, Pastors of Churches which make an Annual Contribution, or Ministers who collect Annually for the Society, and one of the Executors on the payment of a legacy of 50s. or upwards, are entitled to attend.

WEDNESDAY, April 29th.

ANNUAL MORNING SERMON.—The Committee announce with pleasure that the Rev. JONATHAN WATSON, of Edinburgh, will preach the Annual Morning Sermon on behalf of the Society, at BLOOMSBURY CHAPEL. Service to commence at Eleven o'clock.

ANNUAL EVENING SERMON.—On the same day, the Annual Evening Sermon on behalf of the Society will be preached at the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE. The Committee have pleasure in announcing that the Rev. WILLIAM BROCK, of London, will be the preacher on the occasion. Service to commence at Half-past Six.

THURSDAY, April 30th.

PUBLIC MEETING at EXETER HALL.—The Annual Public Meeting of the Society will be held, as usual, in Exeter Hall, at which JOSEPH TRITTON, Esq., has kindly consented to preside.

The Rev. R. W. DALE, M.A., of Birmingham; the Rev. J. MAKEPEACE, of Luton; the Rev. J. H. MILLARD, B.A., of London; the Rev. J. SALE, of Calcutta; and the Rev. C. CARTER, of Ceylon, are expected to speak. Chair to be taken at Eleven o'clock.

Tickets for the Meeting may be obtained at the Mission House, or at the Vestries of the various Chapels.

YOUNG MEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.—In the Evening of the same day, the ANNUAL MEETING of the Association will be held in the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, at Seven o'clock. Revs. W. BROCK, Jun., S. COLLY, A. HANNAY, and N. HAYCROFT, M.A., have promised to speak.

Admission to the Public Meeting, on Thursday Morning, will be by Tickets, which may be obtained at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street, or in the Vestries of the Chapels.

The Platform at the Public Meeting will be appropriated to the Committee, to the Speakers, to the Representatives of kindred Institutions, and to such other individuals as it may be deemed proper specially to invite; and also to all Ministers who are Members of the Society.

The Body of the Hall will be for the Members of the Society generally.

S. MORTON PETO, Treasurer.

FRED. TRESTRALL,

EDWARD B. UNDERHILL, } Secretaries.

Baptist Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street,

17th April, 1863.

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS of the

BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

On FRIDAY EVENING, April 24th, PUBLIC MEETINGS will be held at the undermentioned places:—

BROMPTON, ONSLOW CHAPEL.

The Rev. JOHN BIGWOOD to preside.
The Rev. W. L. GILES, of Dublin; the Rev. S. COWDY, of Waltham; and the Rev. JOHN STENT, of Notting Hill, to speak.

DALSTON.

The Rev. WILLIAM MIALL to preside.
The Rev. C. KIRTLAND, of Canterbury; the Rev. C. J. MIDDLEDITCH; and the Rev. J. WENN, of Ipswich, to speak.

ISLINGTON, CROSS-STREET.

EDWARD B. UNDERHILL, Esq., to preside.
The Rev. H. M. BOURN, of Portadown, Ireland; WILLIAM HEATON, Esq.; and the Rev. J. W. LANCE, of Newport, Monmouthshire, to speak.

LEE.

The Rev. R. H. MARTEN, B.A., to preside.

The Rev. W. BARKER, of Church-street, Blackfriars; the Rev. J. HUNT COOKE, of Portsea; and the Rev. J. DREW, of Newbury, to speak.

Meetings to commence at seven o'clock.

The ANNUAL MEETING of MEMBERS of the SOCIETY will be held in the LIBRARY of the MISSION HOUSE, on MONDAY, April 27th.

The Chair to be taken at eleven o'clock by the Treasurer, THOMAS FEWTESS, Esq.

The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, on TUESDAY, April 28th.

The Chair to be taken at Half-past Six o'clock by Mr. Alderman ABBISS. The Rev. H. H. BOURN, of Portadown, Ireland; the Rev. W. L. GILES, of Dublin; the Rev. N. HAYCROFT, M.A., of Bristol; WILLIAM HEATON, Esq., of London, and the Rev. J. A. SPURGEON, of Southampton, have engaged to speak.

C. J. MIDDLEDITCH, SECRETARY.

Baptist Mission House, April 21, 1863.

BAPTIST UNION.

The ANNUAL SESSION will be held at the MISSION HOUSE, MOORGATE-STREET, on FRIDAY, 24th April, at Half-past Ten a.m.

The Rev. J. H. HINTON, .A., will preside, and deliver the Introductory Address.

Refreshments will be provided.

The SESSION will ADJOURN to SATURDAY, April 25th, Five p.m., at REGENT'S-PARK COLLEGE, when the Portraits of the Rev. Dr. Steane and Rev. J. H. Hinton M.A., will be presented to the Union, by Sir S. M. Peto, Bart., in behalf of the Subscribers; and Papers on the state of the Denomination in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, will be read by Revs. Dr. Angus, Dr. Paterson, Dr. Thomas, and C. J. MIDDLEDITCH.

BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL MEETING of the SUBSCRIBERS will be held at the MISSION HOUSE, 33, MOORGATE-STREET, on MONDAY next, April 27th, at Three o'clock.

The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held on the same day, at the METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE (Mr. Spurgeon's).

JOHN C. MARSHMAN, Esq., will preside.

The Chair will be taken at Half-past Six precisely.

Speakers:—The Revs. C. STOVER, BAPTIST W. NOW, J. GRAHAM (Craven Chapel, London), and R. P. MACMASTER (Bristol).

STEPHEN J. DAVIS, Secretary.

BRITISH and FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society is appointed to be held at EXETER HALL, in the STRAND, LONDON, on WEDNESDAY, the 6th of May, at Eleven o'clock precisely.

Tickets of admission may be obtained at the Society's House, 10, Earl-street, Blackfriars, where attendance will be given from Wednesday, April 23, to Tuesday, May 5, for the purpose of issuing tickets upon application, between the hours of twelve and four.

C. JACKSON, } Secretaries.
S. B. BERGNE, }

AGED PILGRIMS' FRIEND SOCIETY.

Instituted 1807, for Granting Life Pensions of Five and Ten Guineas per Annum to the Aged Christian Poor of both Sexes, of different denominations.

President—The Right Hon. the Earl of RODEN.

The FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on MONDAY EVENING, April 27th, 1863.

Mr. Alderman ABBISS will take the Chair (D.V.) at Half past Six o'clock precisely.

MICHAEL MURPHY, Secretary.

Office, 10, Poultry.

BRITISH SOCIETY for the PROPAGA-

TION of the GOSPEL among the JEWS.

The TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING will be held (D.V.) at FREEMASONS' HALL, on FRIDAY EVENING, April 24th.

The Chair to be taken by Sir CULLING E. EARDLEY, Bart., at Six o'clock.

Friends of the Society may obtain Tickets at the Office, No. 1, Crescent-place, Blackfriars.

ST. JAMES'S HALL—FREEDMAN'S AID SOCIETY.

The FIRST MEETING of this Society, for giving relief to the women, the children, the sick, and the aged, among the Escaping Slaves, will be held in ST. JAMES'S HALL on the Evening of FRIDAY, the 24th inst., at Seven o'clock.

Sir THOMAS FOWELL BUXTON, Bart., in the Chair.

The Rev. SELLA MARTIN (late of Boston, U.S.), CHARLES BUXTON, Esq., M.P., HENRY FRANK, Esq., M.P., THOMAS HUGHES, Esq. (Author of "Tom Brown"), WASHINGTON WILKS, Esq., J. M. LUDLOW, Esq., the Rev. SAMUEL GARRETT, and others, will speak.

Admission Free.—Reserved Seats, price 1s., may be obtained at the Hall, and at Mr. Donkin's, No. 1, Ivy-lane, Paternoster-row.

JOHN CURWEN, Sec. (pro tem.)

HELP the ESCAPING SLAVE!

The Government give work, food, and shelter, where they can. But the ex-slaves crowd on their lines. From Memphis we hear of nearly a thousand arriving in one day. Mrs. Jacobs, Authoress of "The Deeper Wrong," writes from the hospitals of Alexandria, Va.,—"The small-pox is raging; some of the sick have been frozen to death for want of bedding." A deputation of "Friends" saw at Columbus, Ky., "five to seven hundred human beings, of all ages and both sexes, crowded together in one dilapidated old stable, with no floor to it, and several hundred more sitting in squads on the bare ground, without any shelter at all. We saw mothers there, clad only in old chemise and their muslin skirt. We saw daughters of every age, from infancy to twelve or fourteen years, with only a single garment." Educated Christian men and women have gone forth freely to clothe, and nurse, and teach, these new-born babes of freedom. Will you not join their blessed enterprise?

Contributions should be sent, before the meeting on the 24th inst., to the "Bank of London," Threadneedle-street, London, for the account of the "Freedman's Aid Society" to the

Rev. JOHN CURWEN, Plaistow, London, E.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)



ROYAL SOCIETY of MUSICIANS of GREAT BRITAIN.

Instituted in 1738, for the Maintenance of Aged and Indigent Musicians, their Widows, and Orphans.

The ANNUAL PERFORMANCE of HANDEL'S MESSIAH will take place at ST. JAMES'S HALL on WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 6, at Eight o'clock, in AID of the FUNDS of the CHARITY.

CONDUCTOR—Professor W. S. BENNETT.

Mdlle. Titiens, Mdlle. Parepa, Miss Eliza Hughes, Miss Lavocelle, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Whiffin, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and Mr. Weiss.

Tickets, 10s. 6d., 5s., and 3s., at Addison and Lucas's, 310, Regent-street; Austin's Ticket Office, 23, Piccadilly; and at the principal Music Warehouses.

SOCIETY for the RESTORATION of FALLEN YOUNG WOMEN.

Those who have a desire for the restoration of the outcast are informed that a HOME has been recently OPENED for the purpose, under the auspices of a few Christian friends.

To some it will doubtless be a source of relief and satisfaction that an opportunity is given to contribute pecuniary aid for the establishment of a Home for young females who, although having been led astray, have not sunk into habitual vice. There is great room for an institution of this special class, it being too well known that, in larger institutions, a proper classification is not effectually carried out. No special appeal will be needed by any who feel compassion for those who have lost home, friends, character, and credit, but who are nevertheless within the scope of Christian benevolence. The arrangements of this Society will be carried out by a committee of Christian gentlemen, who will meet at the institution at least once in a month, and who will be annually elected at a meeting of subscribers. The accounts will be regularly kept by the Superintendent, under the inspection of the Committee, and all unnecessary expense will be strictly avoided. The only paid officials will be the Superintendent and her assistants, so that the bounty afforded to this society shall reach the objects on whose behalf it is solicited.

DONATIONS and SUBSCRIPTIONS are earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received at the Bankers, Bank of London, Threadneedle-street, E.C.; by the Rev. J. Waddington, D.D., 9, Surrey-square, S.E.; Rev. J. De Kewer Williams, Geneva Lodge, Shacklewell; James Townley, Esq., Solicitor, 37, Whitebrook, E.C.; Mrs. Fleming, Elm Lodge, Dulwich; Mr. G. Corbenty, Lower Tottenham, N.; and by the Superintendent, at the Home, 13, Surrey-place, Old Kent-road, S.E.

THE FIRST TEN YEARS of the "NONCONFORMIST," complete and in good condition, to be DISPOSED OF.

Apply to A.B., at Mr. Moss's, Grocer, Hitchin.

NONCONFORMIST PAPERS WANTED.

1854.	From p. 168 to p. 177 (extra number)
1855 Nov. 14.
1857 Nov. 11.
1859 Dec. 31.
1861 Feb. 12.
1861 Aug. 14.

Apply to B. Hillyard, Matlock, Derbyshire.

ORGAN FOR SALE.—A very fine Second-hand ORGAN, with Three Sets of Keys, Twenty-six Stops, 127 Pipes, in excellent condition.

For price and particulars, apply to Forster and Andrews, Organ Builders, Hull.

LEGAL EDUCATION.—A FIRM of LONDON SOLICITORS, in Established Business, and of the highest respectability, are prepared to RECEIVE a YOUNG GENTLEMAN as ARTICLED CLERK. If necessary he can reside with one of the Partners. Every attention will be paid to his Legal Training.

Apply, by letter, to H., Messrs. Cartwright, Law Stationers, Chancery-lane.

THE ADVERTISER wishes to meet with an ENGAGEMENT as COMPANION to a LADY. Would not object to make herself useful in any capacity not menial. Respectable References can be given.

Address, M. J. M., care of Mr. William Orr, 113, Crown-street, Liverpool.

GOVERNESS PUPIL.—WANTED, to place a YOUNG LADY, aged 18, as GOVERNESS PUPIL in a Superior School. She is capable of instructing Junior Pupils.

Address, stating lowest terms and full particulars, A. B., 14, Neville-terrace, Hornsey-road, N.

BRITISH SCHOOL, near LONDON.—WANTED, a CERTIFICATED MASTER, whose WIFE is qualified to Teach in a Mixed School.

State qualifications, salary, &c., by letter, to A. Z., 21, Hanover-square, W.

A RESPECTABLE YOUNG PERSON, who has had some years' experience in the DRAPERY, is in want of a SITUATION. No objection to assist in the Millinery and Mantle-making.

A. B., 5, Harrington-terrace, Woolwich, Kent.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED (immediately), by a respectable YOUNG MAN, a SITUATION in the DRAPERY. Country preferred. Unexceptionable References given.

Address, J. M., Post-office, Windsor.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, a YOUNG MAN accustomed to a COUNTRY TRADE. A Knowledge of the OUTFIT DEPARTMENT requisite.

Address, stating age, salary, and reference, to Mr. R. Whibley, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, in the DRAPERY BUSINESS, a YOUNG LADY as SALESWOMAN, a First hand BONNET MILLINER. Also, a YOUNG MAN—one who can Dress a Window Preferred.

Apply to Thorp, Bayliss, and Thorp, Preston, Lancashire.

THE REV. WILLIAM KIRKUS, LL.B., RECEIVES a FEW PUPILS to BOARD and EDUCATE, or to Prepare for University Examinations.

For further particulars, apply to the Rev. W. Kirkus, St. Thomas's-square, Hackney.

SYDENHAM HOUSE SCHOOL, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

Principal—Mr. GEO. FOSTER.

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TRADE MARK,

On each



THE BULL'S HEAD,

Package.

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THE ONLY PRIZE MEDAL FOR MUSTARD,

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

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HALL, near HOUNSLOW, is conducted with special regard to the requirements of the Sons of respectable Traders and Farmers, and others.

Mr. VERNEY is assisted by experienced resident Teachers—English and Foreign. The Pupils are carefully trained in good habits, and fitted for active Business Pursuits. The premises are extensive, and contain every convenience; the situation is high and healthy; the food is of the best description and unlimited; and the terms are moderate.

A Prospectus forwarded upon application; and Pupils admitted at any time.

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A FINISHING MIDDLE-CLASS DISSENTING SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.

French Protestant Governors Resident, and Professors for Music, Singing, German, Latin, and Italian, Dancing, and Calisthenics in Attendance.

A ParLOUR Boarder can be received.

Terms, Forty-five to Fifty-five Guineas per Annum, inclusive.

Address, The Misses BULLER.

REFERENCE.—Rev. E. Jones, Ipswich; Rev. I. Lord, Birmingham; J. E. McConnell, Woodlands, Great Missenden, Bucks; O. Hussey, Esq., Leeds; E. Goddard, Esq., Ipswich; H. Clarke, Esq., Ipswich; and the parents of the pupils.

HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, THAME, near OXFORD.

Conducted by Mr. J. MARSH.

Assisted by English and French Resident Masters.

The special aim of this School is to prepare Youths for Commercial pursuits; and the great success which has attended Mr. Marsh's efforts in Thame for twenty-two years is the best proof of the efficiency of the system pursued. No pains are spared to make every Pupil write a good hand, understand Arithmetic and Mental Arithmetic. The best specimens of Writing and Drawing in the Great Exhibition of 1851 were by Pupils from this School, and attention is requested to the specimens of Book-keeping and Drawing now exhibiting at the Crystal Palace.

* * * References to the Rev. C. Vince, Birmingham; the Rev. I. Duxsey, Edmonton; W. Johnson, Esq., Banbury; and Parents in all the midland counties.

Terms low and inclusive. Prospectus, with sketch of Premises, on application.

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HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT, LIMPLEY STOKE, near BATH.

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The Treatment is practised in its moderated forms. Domestic comforts are realised under the superintendence of an Experienced Matron.

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For further particulars address the Manager, Mr. T. Preston, Limpley Stoke, near Bath.

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Epileptics are, with few exceptions, rejected as in-patients by general hospitals, asylums, or convalescent institutions. Their final doom is the lunatic asylum, or, still worse, the insane wards of the workhouse.

FUNDS are urgently solicited to increase the number of beds in this Institution, the only one in the United Kingdom specially devoted to the study of these fearful maladies.

Bankers—Coutts and Co., Strand; Union Bank, City.

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E. H. CHANDLER, Hon. Sec.

GEORGE RRID, Secretary.

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It is established on the purely Mutual Principle, by which the whole of the Profits belong to the Policyholders, and are apportioned every third year, received in cash, deducted from the future Premiums, or added to the Policy, at the option of the Assured. The Cash Bonuses actually divided amongst the Members have averaged

TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

Policies need not at any time be forfeited, as the Company will, after they have been three years in force, grant a Free Policy without further payment, or return the official value of the Policy in cash; or, in the event of some temporary emergency, will advance a Loan to pay the current Premiums.

All needful information supplied on application to any of the Agents, or to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

POLYTECHNIC.—The most liberal

Shilling's-worth in London. Open from 12 till 5, and from 7 till 10. Great Additions to and new Experiments in Professor Pepper's Lecture, on Optical Illusions. Professor Pepper will (by the kind permission of the author) read and illustrate a portion of Mr. Charles Dickens's Tale of the "Haunted Man" and the "GHOST" will actually appear to walk across the new platform arranged in the Large Theatre, N.B.—In order to prevent disappointment, the "Ghost Illusion," will be shown every morning and evening at half past 1 and 8 o'clock. New Lecture by J. L. King, Esq., entitled "Pneumatic Wonders," illustrated with new experiments, models, &c., and the "New Pneumatic Paracelsus Despatch Apparatus." Conjuring made Easy, by Mr. James Matthews, assisted by confederacy or mechanical agency. Von Weber's Grand Opera of "Der Frieschutz," in the German and humorous Schools. The Optical Scenery by Messrs. Childs and Hill. The Instrumental Music by Mrs. Peile, Mr. Tinney, and the celebrated Brouill Family. The Vocal Music by Miss Fosbrooke, Miss Champion, Mr. Suchet Champion, and Mr. Chaplin Henry. Chorus, Lionel Brough, Esq.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 912.]

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Eccelesiastical Affairs.

THE MONOPOLIST MAJORITY.

If we thought that Sir Morton Peto had cherished towards the Bill which perished last Wednesday by a Tory stampede any yearnings of paternity, we should offer him an unfeigned expression of condolence. We can hardly imagine, however, that he would care much about the fate of the rickety changeling which the Select Committee had palmed upon him in lieu of his own offspring. He has faithfully discharged whatever duty the stress of circumstances rather than the promptings of affection had imposed upon him, and the bantling which nobody seemed eager to acknowledge is no more. The innocent, feeble, misshapen little thing stood no better chance than if it had been an infant in the path of the herd of swine into which the demons, by divine sufferance, had entered, and which "ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked." The few who took the faintest interest in it are at least spared all anxiety as to its future. They will not attempt to revive it. They will not even seek to gather up its remains. Conservatism, in one furious rush, trampled it to death, and not a limb, scarcely a shred, of it is to be found.

So much for the method of asserting rights, which almost begs pardon for being guilty of possessing them! No demand of the Liberation Society, from the moment of its birth up to the present time, has ever suffered such ignominious rejection as this worthless little child of a Select Committee. No bold and uncompromising measure of theirs, even when urged in the most aggressive tone, ever provoked such a determined and fanatical demonstration against it as this stunted and timid compromise, although "recommended to mercy" by respectable and influential patronage. Had it been proposed to open the parochial burial-yards to the use of every parishioner without leave from any authority, without regard to any religious distinctions, without deference to any prejudice, clerical or lay—had the proposal been submitted to the House in the shape, not of a redress of a grievance, but of a claim to a right—had it been embodied in a Bill conspicuously endorsed with the name of the Liberation Society, instead of being somewhat ostentatiously introduced as a project with which they had had nothing to do, and relieved of all factitious opprobrium by their earnest disavowal of responsible connexion with it—it could not have been more rabidly assailed, nor more savagely run down. Its official defenders—Mr. Gladstone and Sir George Grey—more than half repudiated it, and no one cared to stand up manfully in its support. It does not appear to have conciliated by its apologetic bashfulness a single foe, and it failed to enlist a single loyal and devoted friend.

Its fate, however, throws light upon the spirit

gendered by a civil establishment of religion. The debate which preceded that crushing division will be read and pondered, we trust, by all classes of Dissenters. No more perfect specimen of the insolence bred of monopoly can be found. And we deserve it as long as we choose to bear it. The paltriness of the claim advanced by the Bill, and the overwhelming shout of reprobation with which it was rejected, are, now that the affair is over, matters to be thankful for. In this manner may all our demands be trampled upon by this Parliament! The monopolist majority, we hope, will not falter. The less we ask, the more vociferously and scornfully, we trust, they will refuse. The more conciliatory and timid we are, the more arrogant, harsh and unreasonable we would have them show themselves to be. It would do us a world of good. Let them dash cold water in our faces—let them throw buckets-full over us—let them, in the wantonness of their selfishness and insolence, amuse themselves by unnecessary displays of their ascendancy! We need these rough applications to drive the blood of our manhood from the languid heart to the cold extremities. The reaction will come all the sooner in proportion to the domineering tyranny with which we are treated. They have emulated Spain in intolerance, and, like Spain they have veiled their bigotry behind pious pretences. The British public will come in time to understand them. They will know that what is everywhere accepted as a decent arrangement in Scotland in regard to the burial of the dead, and what is legally authorised and works well in Ireland, cannot be proposed for England without being followed by an outburst of insults such as modern times have seldom witnessed. The English mind, after all, will finally insist upon fair-play. The clergy are rampant just now—and with that ignorance of human nature which fatally characterises them whenever they are uppermost, they cast moderation to the winds. They do but help on that education of the public mind which, when the hour is come, will grapple with the last and greatest of monopolies. They serve us by finally getting rid of all compromises. They unmask before the necessity of the case requires it. But, whether they know it or not, they are zealously doing the preliminary work the final outcome of which will be the repudiation of legal favouritism in reference to ecclesiastical institutions.

And now, happily, the way is clear for another Bill on the same subject. We think we can pledge ourselves that the next advance in this direction will be made without loss of time, and that its character will be of a somewhat more uncompromising sort. We shall ask no redress of a grievance. We shall appeal to the Legislature, and from the Legislature to the public, for an undeniable right. We see no reason why we should tamely acquiesce in being rudely ousted from our share of what belongs to us equally as to any other section of the community. We see no advantage in tolerating in our representatives such a use or abuse of the political power with which we clothe them, as subjects us to the domination of a favoured and pampered section of the community. We may not be strong enough to take what fairly belongs to us for some time to come. But, at least, we can demand it, and be again and again refused. We can be perpetually attracting public attention to the thorough and essential inequity of the ecclesiastical arrangements of this Kingdom. We can hammer, hammer, hammer away at the public conscience and sense of justice, until it has fairly shaped itself to our designs. Fortunately, our main purpose, so far from being retarded, is furthered, by overwhelming majorities against the pettiest of our requests. The House of Commons will never be without opportunities of dealing uncivilly with us. We can stand any amount of beating. We are not likely to be driven off the ground. We have found out that if we can gain nothing by the moderation of our demands, we can lose nothing by the boldness

of them. And, above all, our conviction is every day deepened by facts, that the ultimate success of the incessant iteration of simple but neglected truths is, in this country, merely a question of time, earnestness, and perseverance.

And so we dismiss from our thoughts this mal-formed Burial Bill which we are glad enough to see stifled before it was well born. It has served a good purpose, by bringing down upon its miserable feebleness the fury which any advance towards religious equality may expect to encounter. We see now what we have to contend with—see it more and more distinctly in all its proportions almost every successive week. The oftener it rushes forth from its retreat the better. Our friends will get familiar with it, and take its measure by-and-by. The non-committed public also will watch its freaks, and cease to regard the political power of the Church as mysterious, indefinite, awful. We shall draw it out into light as frequently as may be, that all men may look upon it, and see its characteristic qualities. To prick Mr. Disraeli into the habit of waving his tail, and Lord Robert Cecil into the custom of showing his claws, will not be without its influence upon coming conflicts. And if, at every little stir made by Dissenters, the monopolist majority will but indulge in such a stampede as that of Wednesday last, we hope to keep them well exercised, and can afford to wait for what we want till their zealotry and intolerance are out of breath.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

Like the cheerful portrait of a friend before life's troubles had overtaken him, is the book which has just fallen into our hands, "Nine Months in the United States," by the Rev. Dr. Fisch, pastor of the French Evangelical Church in Paris. Let us forget the war and all its horrors, and sit down to look at the fresh and unvarnished picture which Pastor Fisch has placed before us! Such a picture of the power and success of a Free Christianity has not been drawn since the day when the Apostles were sent upon their Divine Mission.

Dr. Fisch arrived in the United States seven months before, and stayed there two months after, the war broke out. The object of his journey and residence appears to have been to see all that could be seen of the people, and especially of their religious life. Two of the most interesting chapters of his narrative are devoted to the "Religious Statistics of the United States," and the "Unity of the American Church," but throughout the book are scattered notices of the character of the religious life in America and the influence which it exercises over the national welfare and national habits. Thus, he explains one or two features of political life by a reference to the rank which religion occupies. "There is not," he says, "the smallest village that does not out the horizon with several belfries. And these churches, exceeding in number forty thousand, have all been built and are maintained by private individuals. There must be extraordinary vitality in the religious feeling of a country where religion has conquered for itself the first place, in spite of many causes that tend to weaken it, and where the State systematically abstains from rendering it any assistance." Dr. Fisch goes on to tell us that experience proves that the American solution of the religious question is "as beneficial in its result as it is simple and logical." How? First, in the extent of its success:—

"The aspect of America," says Dr. Fisch, "is a powerful apology for Christianity. It numbers not less than forty-four thousand Evangelical churches, belonging to five or six distinct groups, who recognise not external authority. Religious thought acts with perfect independence. Theology is taught in hundreds of seminaries, having between them no other tie than that of Christian love, and no other relations than those of co-operation. Yet in all these places the great doctrines of the Gospel are taught with equal clearness and vigour. These churches possess in common the vital doctrines of the

Divine inspiration of the Scriptures, the fall of man, the Trinity, redemption by the atoning sacrifice of the Saviour, gratuitous salvation, justification by faith, regeneration by the Holy Ghost. Ah! if we sigh after that day for our Europe when the Church shall be separated from the State, it is that we know how favourable this system is to the triumph of Christian truth."

Further on we are presented with the following valuable facts:—

"At the census of 1850 there were thirty-six thousand churches. There are now forty-eight thousand. By counting one pastor for each church, which is a small allowance, we get a budget of 4,800,000*l.* to meet the expenses of worship—that is to say, a budget thrice the amount of that of France—the funds of which budget are entirely supplied by the congregations. Besides this, the total value of these forty-eight thousand churches is 23,040,000*l.* sterling, which sum has been subscribed by private individuals. Every year twelve hundred additional churches are built, at a cost of 1,600,000*l.* sterling. To this is to be added the budget for superior instruction, which is altogether supplied by private liberality, and also the budget of innumerable philanthropic and religious societies which amount to not less than 2,000,000*l.* sterling."

"Next, Dr. Fish indicates the unity of the Church. 'You never hear of sects in the United States,' says our author, and he contrasts the genial, courteous spirit that characterises the ecclesiastical journalism of America with the 'carping habits' of European writers. 'No one of them can say to the rest, 'I am the Church, you are Dissenters!' Where there is no superiority there is no jealousy.' How this state of things operates with respect to the civil constitution, to Church property, to marriage, to ministerial character, to theology, and to public instruction, are rapidly reviewed; the author's summary being that 'while the State has no reason to complain of the liberty allowed the Church, the latter has abundant reason to congratulate itself. The American Church derives from this liberty that vitality and influence which give it the superiority over all churches in the Old World.'

But we forget that we are not writing a review; but we have been anxious to introduce a good book to the reader, and let him look for a moment at a pleasant and grateful French sketch of the result of the Voluntary principle in the land that now scarcely gets a good word from anybody. We don't believe in hitting a man when he is down, and so we join with Pastor Fisch and say of our friend when he is at his worst, all the good that we can possibly say. No nation in its adversity ever, certainly, got a better word from a visitor than the word which this French Protestant has spoken of America.

We wonder whether, in the land where "sects" are not heard of, the Church could understand the way in which Church newspapers in this country deal with English Dissent? Last week we had the pleasure of informing the reader that, in the eye of the *Superfine Review*, every Dissenting minister was "a Stiggins." Perhaps the *Superfine Review* (or Lord Robert Cecil) believes what it says, and is seriously of opinion that the twenty thousand Nonconformist churches of England are taught by rum-drinking, red-nosed individuals, who spend their time in small public-houses, preaching teetotalism, and talking blasphemy. Mr. Dickens's inimitable creation of Stiggins has been followed, as the reader is aware, by Mrs. Oliphant's creation of Tozer. As the *Saturday* adopts the former, the *Guardian* adopts the latter. Not only are Nonconformist ministers all Stigginses, but Nonconformist deacons are all Tozers. It has read "Salem Chapel," and is of opinion that "there is no attempt at caricature in these pages." The deacons, according to the *Guardian*, "comport themselves according to their nature and station"; the representations have an aspect of "vivid reality," and the book is commended as "a tale well suited to the times, especially to any who may be at all enamoured of the so-called Voluntary system." Visions of portraits, by other and stronger hands than Mrs. Oliphant's, rise to our view as we read these words. Shall we therefore say that Bishops are all Proudies, and popular preachers all Honeymans? We should probably get to this, if we should ever find Dissent at its last gasp, but not before.

May we not ask—although, certainly, it is not our business—whether Church Defenders would not be showing a little more wisdom if, instead of spending their time and strength in ridiculing Dissent—which seems to grow all the faster the more it is attacked,—they were to put their own house thoroughly in order? An organisation, like a man, has no more than a certain amount of force, and if it spends that force in one direction it will not be able to spend it in another. Take, for instance, the jokes we have just quoted. Would it not have been wiser for the *Guardian* and the *Saturday* to have reserved the small amount of intellectual force that was required to fire them off for their own organisations? Which is the best, to cure your own follies or

laugh at the follies of other people? The *English Churchman* and Mr. George Frederick Chambers, are in their way, much more sensible. They are spending their time in curing themselves of the folly of establishing the "Church Institution." The *Churchman* roundly attacks this body for starting a "Circular," which has cost the institution 597*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, and made the body "insolvent," and, adds the newspaper, "we do not see that insolvency is one whit more respectable or justifiable in an Institution than it is in an individual." Mr. G. F. C. follows suit, and candidly tells the public what an inefficient and dilatory body—when compared with the Liberation Society—the Institution is. This is writing to some purpose, and is unusually sensible in staunch Church Defenders. Would Mr. Hoare be good enough to attack the Committee of Laymen in the same way?

Churchmen will soon think that Dissent is as hydra-headed as it is said to be, just now, Argus-eyed. No sooner is the Burials Bill defeated, and, as the *Press* jubilantly says, "the plague" thereby "stayed," than another measure starts to life. Sir Morton Peto walks down, and on the same afternoon, Mr. Heywood addressed a meeting at Manchester, at which a committee was formed for procuring the abolition of all religious tests at the universities. The meeting was held in anticipation of Mr. Bouverie's Bill. We are glad to see from the report of Mr. Heywood's speech that the movement at Oxford in favour of the measure is well supported. Canon Stanley, Dr. Liddell, Professor Jowett, Sir B. Brodie, and about fifty others are about to petition in favour of a measure which shall open the colleges to members of all denominations equally. This does not look like the "plague" being "stayed."

We see it stated that, according to the Oxford "Regulations for Local Examinations" this year, junior candidates are to be examined in the following subjects—the Catechism, the Morning and Evening Service, and the Litany. This, at first sight, seems to be a departure from the ground taken when these examinations were instituted. May we express the hope, however, that it will not be objected to? It is not in any sense a test, and on the whole there are good reasons why Dissenters should read and be examined on these subjects. For ourselves we should have been glad if the whole of the Church Services and Canons had been included in the examination. A thorough, impartial study of these would "crystallise" the Dissent of any student.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

CONFERENCE AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

On Thursday last, a numerous and influentially-attended district conference of the friends of the Liberation Society was held in the lecture-room of Bewick-street Chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The attendance showed that the district was fully alive to the importance of the objects of the society, all the principal towns in Northumberland and Durham being represented by influential delegates; amongst those present being a number of Nonconformist ministers belonging to other denominations. The London committee of the society were represented by Mr. Edward Miall and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, both gentlemen being greeted with a hearty reception. The business commenced at eleven o'clock, when Mr. Councillor Henry Angus, of Newcastle, was called upon to preside, on the motion of the Rev. GEO. BELL, Newcastle, seconded by the Rev. W. HANSON, South Shields. The Rev. H. T. ROBERTSON, of Newcastle, having offered up an appropriate prayer.

The CHAIRMAN said he could assure them he had much pleasure in meeting them upon that occasion. He would yield to none in the interest he felt in this great question; and since they had gathered there to see after the interests of all men in the matter to come before them, he was sure they would respect the feelings of all in the discussion about to take place. (Hear, hear.) He was quite sure they were all prepared to exhibit a right feeling in the discussion to come on. (Cheers.)

Mr. S. T. CULLEY (Newcastle) moved that the Rev. W. Walters (Newcastle), and Mr. Richard B. Gibbs (Crook), be requested to act as secretaries to the Conference; which having been seconded by the Rev. W. HANSON (South Shields), was carried.

Mr. MIALL was then called on to read a paper on the "Present Position of the Anti-State Church Movement." The question at issue, he said, was, whether Government agency should be employed for spiritual purposes. The question was not a new one; for objections to Church Establishments had existed since 1662, and even earlier, but it was only in modern times, and as the result of many past conflicts, that it had come to be widely felt that the State should leave all religious bodies to give proof of the vitality of their respective systems, by according to them only protection, and not patronage and support. It was to obtain the general recognition of this principle that the Liberation Society was established in 1844. It began its work by stimulating those who already held its views, and then but little notice was taken of its proceedings. When, how-

ever, it had acquired force, it sought to bring its principles to bear upon Parliament, by uniting with the Liberal party in endeavouring to obtain measures embodying, to any extent, the principle of religious equality. As the result, it had obtained important concessions to Dissenters at Oxford and Cambridge. It had secured an amendment of the Burial Laws, and had helped to abolish Ministers' Money. It had abolished Church-rates in many parishes, and had since carried an Abolition Bill to the House of Lords. The Qualification for Offices Bill had four times been carried through the Commons; since the society was framed the Clergy Reserves had been abolished in Canada; Jews had been admitted to Parliament, and in the colonies State grants for religious purposes had nearly ceased. These successes had alarmed the hierarchy, who had now arrayed themselves against the whole design of the society. The character of the contest was now changed. Nothing was to be conceded on its merits. Everything Dissenters desired was to be sternly refused, and every right and privilege of the Church was to be regarded as an entrenchment behind which the Establishment was to be defended. One result of this was that no Dissenter could now be neutral. The Bicentenary agitation had put an end to the one-sided truce which had paralysed the energies of many Dissenters. Religious Dissent was now as grievous an offence as political Dissent, and the Church of England was assuming an aggressive attitude—in proof of which quotations were given from recent speeches of Churchmen. A great contest was approaching, and Voluntaries should review their position. Their real force was only half developed, though the aims of the Liberation Society were never so thoroughly appreciated by Dissenters as now. They must now unite more closely, and develop that enormous force which was at their command. They had abundant materials in the state of public opinion; in the tendencies of the age; in the spread of justice, of free trade, and of free inquiry; and in the utterances of European statesmen and philosophers. They had but to stand their ground, and their triumph would be sure. The paper concluded with an exposition of the present duties of the Voluntary party, both in Parliament and in the country. The paper was listened to with the closest attention, and was much applauded.

The Rev. GEORGE WHITEHEAD (Shotley-bridge) said that after the very admirable and singularly comprehensive statement to which they had just listened, he thought there would be no difficulty in presenting the resolution he now held in his hand. He felt unfeigned satisfaction in moving:—

That this Conference greatly rejoices at the progress already made towards the attainment of the object aimed at by the Liberation Society, as evidenced not only by the character of modern legislation and the tendencies of public sentiment, but by the alarm of the supporters of the State-Church system and their organised efforts in its defence. That at the same time the conference is impressed with the necessity for corresponding exertions on the part of those who believe political establishments for religious purposes to be hurtful to religion, as well as to the general interests of the community.

("Hear," and applause.) The resolution, he said, spoke of the necessity of corresponding exertions on the part of the friends of the society. He hoped that those corresponding exertions would not be wanting in the North of England in connexion with this great and important movement. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JOHN HALCRO (Sunderland), in seconding the motion, said he most heartily rejoiced in the progress of modern legislation with reference to Christianity in this country from the time of the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts to that law which granted admission to Dissenters into our Universities. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) Still there was a large amount of darkness which called for agitation and energetic efforts to enlighten the public mind. After insisting on the importance of showing that their object was purely spiritual, he referred to the Lord Chancellor's scheme, and said it was evidently a traffic in men's souls. (Hear, hear.) He knew that the Church of England groaned under the burdens that were imposed upon her, and that her ministers felt deeply the imposition of the articles and formularies of their Church. It was in the interest of these men that the society was acting; in the interest of Englishmen, and in the interest of Christ's Church, that it was advocating those principles. ("Hear," and applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Rev. J. C. GRIKIE (Sunderland) moved the next resolution:—

That, while deeming it expedient to continue to press upon the attention of Parliament practical measures for giving effect to the principle of religious equality, this Conference is of opinion that the upholders of that principle should prepare themselves for bolder and more systematic action in the parish vestries, and through the medium of the platform and the press, to create a sound public opinion in relation to ecclesiastical questions, and to guide that opinion into such channels as will influence the future proceedings of the Legislature.

One of the results of that conference should be to commit them to a course of definite and decided action. (Hear, hear.) The parish vestries were the things to be attended to, and in Bishopwearmouth the battle was being nobly fought by Mr. Backhouse. (Loud applause.) He thought they should keep the spiritual as well as the political side of the question before the public; for the real force of any action depended upon its moral weight. As to minorities, it was well known that everything could be carried by minorities if they only worked hard enough. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Minorities would always be successful if worked with energy, and when the tide began to turn it had a wonderful power of accretion. (Hear, hear.) The work on which they were engaged must necessarily progress slowly, but of the ultimate success of their efforts he had no doubt. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. W. WILLIAMS (Newcastle) gladly seconded the resolution, especially as he represented one portion of the Methodist body. (Hear, hear.)

After some observations from Mr. MIALI, relative to new topics to be brought before Parliament,

The Rev. GEORGE BELL said if they were really to be successful in this movement they must do the best they could to convince their Church friends that they intended them as a Church no ill, but wished for their prosperity. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. H. TEESDALE (South Shields) said it became Dissenters to proclaim what they were, and show that they were not ashamed of their principles. (Hear, hear.) By only putting forward a small portion of their principles, by only inserting the small end of the wedge, they did not gain anything.

Mr. A. COMMON (Sunderland) said they had always avowed that their object was the separation of the Church and State. (Hear, hear.) He entirely approved of the boldest possible measure that could be taken.

Mr. MOORE (Forest Hill,) said that there was no doubt, if this Irish Church question could be carried through Parliament, the Maynooth grant would be gone and gone for ever.

Mr. COWEN, jun. (Newcastle), said the mass of the Church of England knew that the Dissenters as a body meant them no harm as a Church. He thought that a bold and straightforward attitude towards them would be as likely to win support as any apologetic attribute. (Hear, hear.) He knew of no man better calculated to promote this cause than Mr. Miall—(Hear, hear)—a cause which he had served for many years—(applause)—and he should be glad, if in that or some of the neighbouring parts they could induce Mr. Miall to come forward as a Parliamentary candidate, and not only come forward but be returned. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

He felt, however, there would never be any advance in the question till there was a change in the composition of the House of Commons, as there was amongst its members an understanding to preserve the present state of things. (Hear, hear.) The only way to bring about that change was by widening the franchise. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He thought that when an election took place—and there might be one next year—they might send a Nonconformist from this part of the kingdom. Even supposing they did not return their candidate, if they went to the poll again and again they would show that they were determined and not ashamed of their cause. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. WIGHT (Sunderland) referred to the Church-rate litigation in Monkwearmouth. If the Dissenters were united in a body they could defend those cases which come up year after year in the same manner as Mr. Backhouse had done. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. EDWARD BACKHOUSE (Sunderland), who had taken the chair during a temporary absence of the chairman, said that, with respect to the remarks of those speakers who wished them to show that they were not aiming at the destruction of the Church of England, his own impression was that they were all there as Christian professors, and as Christian men desiring all increase of grace and mercy and truth in every branch of the Christian church. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) He himself was a member of that association, because he felt he was acting upon New Testament principles; and if he did it upon New Testament principles, he did it upon no man's opinion. (Applause.) They felt that in moving as they desired to do in this matter, their success would tend to place the Episcopal Church upon the same basis as all other churches, and would help it to stand by its own vitality. (Hear, hear.) That was what they wanted to be at, and there was nothing whatever in their feelings towards the Episcopalian Church but that right Christian feeling which Christian men ought to entertain. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. W. BONTEMS (Hartlepool), referring to the bill before Parliament for the sale of livings for the purpose of augmenting the income of the living, characterised it as one of the most unjust as well as one of the most foolish measures which had been proposed for many a day. (Hear, hear.) And yet a large portion of the Liberal papers looked upon it as a good thing, and had given their adhesion to it. He thought that a good deal of their success in Parliament in former years arose from the work that was done out of doors. (Hear.)

The Rev. H. T. ROBINSON and Mr. STRACHAN (South Shields), advocated a distinct utterance of the views of voluntaries, and after some remarks from the Rev. R. BROWN (Newcastle), the resolution was carried.

Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, secretary to the society, then rose, amidst hearty plaudits, to address the conference on local organisation and local action. He described the various modes in which local committees might aid the society, and the facilities which existed in the present day for making the influence of the provinces duly felt in Parliament, and in the direction of public opinion. He also detailed the steps taken by the executive committee to collect information, and to make it available for the use of the society's friends throughout the country. He urged the wide distribution of publications as one of the best modes of removing misconception. He also suggested that voluntaries in towns ought to give themselves no rest until they had cleared the surrounding rural parishes of Church-rates, and expressed the opinion that, under existing circumstances, the law-courts furnished a much less hopeful arena of action than the parish vestries.

Mr. COMMON then moved the following resolution:—

That in furtherance of the views already expressed, the conference deems it to be most desirable that there should be either local committees or recognised correspondents of the

society in every town and populous village in the counties of Durham and Northumberland. That it should be the duty of such local agencies, 1, to promote the circulation of the society's publications, and to seize every opportunity for the advancement of their principles through the medium of the local press; 2, to secure the delivery of lectures, or addresses, by means of which sound ecclesiastical principles will be directly or indirectly inculcated, and more especially among the younger portion of the Nonconformist body; 3, by seeking to secure the abolition of Church-rates where they are not yet extinguished, and particularly in rural parishes; 4, by increasing the number of electors and of representatives who are favourable to the principles of religious equality, and by using the opportunities afforded by Parliamentary elections for the advocacy of their views; and, by adopting such other constitutional means as local circumstances may suggest and local resources permit.

Every point in the motion had already been spoken to with great clearness and ability by Mr. Williams. (Hear, and cheers.) Local committees were of very great importance, but they should be composed of hearty workers. ("Hear," and cheers.) The distribution of tracts among the millions was a matter of immense importance, as they were full of information. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. H. TEESDALE seconded the resolution. The circulation of the society's publications would do much to disabuse the public mind on certain points, and personal influence would be found to be highly effective. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. S. GOODALL, of Durham, having made some local allusions, Mr. DRANSFIELD expressed deep sympathy with the remarks which Mr. Williams had made with regard to the care to be taken in indoctrinating the minds of the young, which he considered to be a matter of pre-eminent importance. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was then adopted.

The Rev. G. STEWART (Newcastle), moved, and Mr. J. COWEN, jun., seconded the next resolution:—

That the conference is further of opinion that to carry on (these) extended operations which are both called for and facilitated by the current of public events, an augmented income ought to be placed at the disposal of the executive committee; and it therefore expresses a hope that the friends of the society in this and the adjoining county, will strenuously exert themselves to increase the present scale of subscriptions, the number of subscribers, and the number of places from which contributions are received.

Mr. Cowen said he knew no society which had done so large an amount of work with so small an amount of money as the Liberation Society had done. ("Hear," and cheers.) He had read their publications for many years, and was surprised they should have been able to collect such a mass of information, and deliver it so cheaply as they had done. (Applause.) He hoped that from this time Newcastle would give an increased amount of support. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. W. WALTERS read a note from Edward Pease, Esq., Darlington, stating that he should be unable to attend that meeting, but should be glad to have his name put down for a subscription of 5l.

After some practical suggestions from Mr. Dransfield, Mr. Miall, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Andrew, the motion was carried.

The Rev. J. WARD (Gateshead) proposed, and the Rev. W. BONTEMS seconded, and it was agreed to:—

That a committee be appointed to give effect to the resolutions of this conference, and that it consist of the chairman and secretaries, together with the following gentlemen. [The names were read.]

The Rev. W. WALTERS next moved:—

That the conference expresses its great gratification at the attendance of Edward Miall, Esq., and J. Carvell Williams, Esq., on the present occasion, and an earnest hope that their visit to this district may greatly further the cause for which they have so long laboured.

(Loud applause.) It had been to him a source of unspeakable pleasure, the bringing into this district such men as Mr. Miall and Mr. Williams. ("Hear, hear," and loud cheers.) The chairman had truthfully styled Mr. Miall the apostle of this great movement. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that that gentleman's life would be spared for many years to labour in this great cause. He could not see why the people of Newcastle could not send Mr. Miall to the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Williams deserved all praise for the unostentatious, persevering way in which he had worked this society. (Hear, hear.) It was very much through his efforts that it had reached its present position. (Great applause.)

The Rev. A. HOLLIDAY (Newcastle-on-Tyne) seconded the motion, which was carried amidst applause.

Mr. MIALI, in acknowledging the compliment on behalf of Mr. Williams and himself, said he had been most agreeably disappointed—(Hear, hear)—with the whole character of that meeting; and he should be disagreeably disappointed unless it led to some important practical results. (Hear, hear.) There seemed to be no really good and substantial reasons why the North here should not be a strong arm of support to the Liberation Society. (Hear, hear.) They should be delighted to take to the executive committee a report of what had been done that morning. (Hear, hear.) A conference of that character could not have taken place in Newcastle without producing a very great moral change. ("Hear, hear," and applause.)

A vote of thanks was cordially passed to the chairman and secretaries of the conference, and to the committee who had undertaken the requisite arrangements, and to the ministers and deacons of the Berwick-street church for the use of the lecture-room of the chapel.

This most successful conference was then dissolved, the members afterwards dining together at the Neville Hotel.

THE PUBLIC MEETING.

In the evening a public meeting was held in the Lecture-room, Nelson-street, which was filled by an enthusiastic audience; most of the delegates to the

conference being present. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Candlish, of Sunderland, Mr. Edward Backhouse, of that town, an influential member of the Society of Friends, presided.

The CHAIRMAN having opened the proceedings in an admirable speech descriptive of the objects in view, and the spirit in which they wished to advocate them,

The Rev. W. WALTERS was the first speaker. He said he was glad to find that Mr. Miall and Mr. Williams had been prevailed on to visit them on behalf of the society at this time. (Cheers.) They had that day a most successful conference—such a one certainly as he never anticipated they should have held in Newcastle; and they had had a large number of persons representing those bodies of Dissenters resident in the counties of Northumberland and Durham and exhibiting a great amount of warm and earnest feeling. The gentlemen who had committed themselves to the cause in such a way as they had done could not honourably turn their backs on it; and he hoped that as the result of their conference that morning they should find a local organisation established throughout those two counties, and the great principle of the society brought to bear on the public in such a way as it had never done previously. (Applause.) He was delighted to see such a large meeting held that night.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS followed. He claimed credit for the Liberator for straightforwardness and ingenueness. He ridiculed the idea that they had only lately dropped the mask, and quoted from *Blackwood's Magazine*, of 1834, a passage containing precisely the same statement. The "ulterior aims" objection was another State device, for it was referred to in the debate on the Test Act in the time of Pitt, who had the wisdom to say that he would not object to concede what he ought to concede, because he might be asked for something which he ought not to concede. He proceeded to point out that their designs were unselfish, and that they were in harmony with the best traits of the national character; pointing out to what an extent voluntarism was relied on in manufactures and trade, in benevolence, and also in religion. The public contrasted the pretensions of the Establishment with its actual achievements; giving some important statistics respecting the Church of England and Nonconformists in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, he contended that the Church was itself more injured than Dissenters were by enforced taxation, and quoted from the speeches and writings of Churchmen to prove that the levying of rates and the support of the State had the effect of cramping individual benevolence. They had on that platform no word to utter against the religious views of the Church of England; but they did object to a system which pressed law in the place of love, and employed the carnal weapons of the world instead of the spiritual weapons of the Gospel. Against these things they waged, and meant to wage, unceasing war; and of the system of which they formed part they could exclaim, in the striking language of Thomas Carlyle—"From the souls of men, from the ends of nature, from the throne of God, there are voices bidding it, 'Away! away!' Does it take no warning? Does it stand on its Acts of Parliament and its physical force? The more woe is it, the frightful woe. It will continue standing for its day, for its year, for its century, doing evil all the while; but it has an enemy who is almighty; dissolution, explosion, and the everlasting laws of nature incessantly advance towards it; and the deeper its rooting, the more obstinate its continuing, the deeper also, and the hunger will its ruin and overturn be." (Loud applause.)

Mr. MIALI was the next speaker. He said he came there as a political Dissenter, to Newcastle, not to bring them coals—(loud laughter)—but he trusted to bring them light. (Much laughter and applause.) And if with that light there were some warmth—(Hear, hear, and laughter)—perhaps the beneficial action would not be the less on that account. (Hear, hear.) He thanked his foes for the services they had done him. (Applause.) He found that the more they rained execrations upon his head and upon his name, the more thoroughly he was welcomed by those before whom he stood, and the more intently he was listened to in producing the arguments and reasons by which he sustained the cause he advocated. (Loud cheers.) So, even in Newcastle, notwithstanding all that might have been said in one direction or another, to prevent a respectable audience from being gathered together, and to exclude from the chair any man who had the slightest regard for his character—(Hear, hear)—he believed that even in Newcastle that plan had not succeeded. (Applause.) He proceeded to notice the charge that the members of the Society were "political Dissenters," and to show why they were so. He subsequently commented on the Augmentation of Benefices Bill. He said he would make any sacrifice of his own, he would give up and forego any rights which he possessed rather than conscience should be so utterly demoralised by custom and tradition as to allow of religious interests to be trafficked in the public market, under the cognisance and under the provisions of the public law. (Cheers and a few hisses.) There were some present he perceived who wished it to be so. (Renewed cheers and hisses.) Let them enjoy the proud distinction. (Loud applause and laughter.) He for one did not feel at all inclined to participate with them in the sentiment which they advocated. (Cheers and hisses.) [A Voice, in angry accents: I pay for my priest as well as any Dissenter. (Laughter and uproar.) I pay my seat-rents as well as any man.] (Laughter and hisses.) It was only those who did not pay that were sold. (Hear, hear,

Divine inspiration of the Scriptures, the fall of man, the Trinity, redemption by the atoning sacrifice of the Saviour, gratuitous salvation, justification by faith, regeneration by the Holy Ghost. Ah! if we sigh after that day for our Europe when the Church shall be separated from the State, it is that we know how favourable this system is to the triumph of Christian truth."

Further on we are presented with the following valuable facts:—

"At the census of 1850 there were thirty-six thousand churches. There are now forty-eight thousand. By counting one pastor for each church, which is a small allowance, we get a budget of 4,800,000*l.* to meet the expenses of worship—that is to say, a budget thrice the amount of that of France—the funds of which budget are entirely supplied by the congregations. Besides this, the total value of these forty-eight thousand churches is 23,040,000*l.* sterling, which sum has been subscribed by private individuals. Every year twelve hundred additional churches are built, at a cost of 1,600,000*l.* sterling. To this is to be added the budget for superior instruction, which is altogether supplied by private liberality, and also the budget of innumerable philanthropic and religious societies which amount to not less than 2,000,000*l.* sterling."

Next, Dr. Fisch indicates the unity of the Church. "You never hear of *sects* in the United States," says our author, and he contrasts the genial, courteous spirit that characterises the ecclesiastical journalism of America with the "carping habits" of European writers. "No one of them can say to the rest, 'I am the Church, you are Dissenters!' Where there is no superiority there is no jealousy." How this state of things operates with respect to the civil constitution, to Church property, to marriage, to ministerial character, to theology, and to public instruction, are rapidly reviewed; the author's summary being that "while the State has no reason to complain of the liberty allowed the Church, the latter has abundant reason to congratulate itself. The American Church derives from this liberty that vitality and influence which give it the superiority over all churches in the Old World."

But we forget that we are not writing a review; but we have been anxious to introduce a good book to the reader, and let him look for a moment at a pleasant and grateful French sketch of the result of the Voluntary principle in the land that now scarcely gets a good word from anybody. We don't believe in hitting a man when he is down, and so we join with Pastor Fisch and say of our friend when he is at his worst, all the good that we can possibly say. No nation in its adversity ever, certainly, got a better word from a visitor than the word which this French Protestant has spoken of America.

We wonder whether, in the land where "sects" are not heard of, the Church could understand the way in which Church newspapers in this country deal with English Dissent? Last week we had the pleasure of informing the reader that, in the eye of the *Superfine Review*, every Dissenting minister was "a Stiggins." Perhaps the *Superfine Review* (or Lord Robert Cecil) believes what it says, and is seriously of opinion that the twenty thousand Nonconformist churches of England are taught by rum-drinking, red nosed individuals, who spend their time in small public-houses, preaching teetotalism, and talking blasphemy. Mr. Dickens's inimitable creation of Stiggins has been followed, as the reader is aware, by Mrs. Oliphant's creation of Tozer. As the *Saturday* adopts the former, the *Guardian* adopts the latter. Not only are Nonconformist ministers all Stigginses, but Nonconformist deacons are all Tozers. It has read "Salem Chapel," and is of opinion that "there is no attempt at caricature in these pages." The deacons, according to the *Guardian*, "comport themselves according to their nature and station"; the representations have an aspect of "vivid reality," and the book is commended as "a tale well suited to the times, especially to any who may be at all enamoured of the so-called Voluntary system." Visions of portraits, by other and stronger hands than Mrs. Oliphant's, rise to our view as we read these words. Shall we therefore say that Bishops are all Proudis, and popular preachers all Honeymans? We should probably get to this, if we should ever find Dissent at its last gasp, but not before.

May we not ask—although, certainly, it is not our business—whether Church Defenders would not be showing a little more wisdom if, instead of spending their time and strength in ridiculing Dissent—which seems to grow all the faster the more it is attacked,—they were to put their own house thoroughly in order? An organisation, like a man, has no more than a certain amount of force, and if it spends that force in one direction it will not be able to spend it in another. Take, for instance, the jokes we have just quoted. Would it not have been wiser for the *Guardian* and the *Saturday* to have reserved the small amount of intellectual force that was required to fire them off for their own organisations? Which is the best, to cure your own follies or

laugh at the follies of other people? The *English Churchman* and Mr. George Frederick Chambers, are in their way, much more sensible. They are spending their time in curing themselves of the folly of establishing the "Church Institution." The *Churchman* roundly attacks this body for starting a "Circular," which has cost the institution 597*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, and made the body "insolvent," and, adds the newspaper, "we do not see that insolvency is one whit more respectable or justifiable in an Institution than it is in an individual." Mr. G. F. O. follows suit, and candidly tells the public what an inefficient and dilatory body—when compared with the Liberation Society—the Institution is. This is writing to some purpose, and is unusually sensible in staunch Church Defenders. Would Mr. Hoare be good enough to attack the Committee of Laymen in the same way?

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THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

CONFERENCE AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

On Thursday last, a numerous and influentially-attended district conference of the friends of the Liberation Society was held in the lecture-room of Bewick-street Chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The attendance showed that the district was fully alive to the importance of the objects of the society, all the principal towns in Northumberland and Durham being represented by influential delegates; amongst those present being a number of Nonconformist ministers belonging to other denominations. The London committee of the society were represented by Mr. Edward Miall and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, both gentlemen being greeted with a hearty reception. The business commenced at eleven o'clock, when Mr. Councillor Henry Angus, of Newcastle, was called upon to preside, on the motion of the Rev. GEO. BELL, Newcastle, seconded by the Rev. W. HANSON, South Shields. The Rev. H. T. ROBERTSON, of Newcastle, having offered up an appropriate prayer,

The CHAIRMAN said he could assure them he had much pleasure in meeting them upon that occasion. He would yield to none in the interest he felt in this great question; and since they had gathered there to see after the interests of all men in the matter to come before them, he was sure they would respect the feelings of all in the discussion about to take place. (Hear, hear.) He was quite sure they were all prepared to exhibit a right feeling in the discussion to come on. (Cheers.)

Mr. S. T. CULLEY (Newcastle) moved that the Rev. W. Walters (Newcastle), and Mr. Richard B. Gibbs (Crook), be requested to act as secretaries to the Conference; which having been seconded by the Rev. W. HANSON (South Shields), was carried.

Mr. MIALL was then called on to read a paper on the "Present Position of the Anti-State Church Movement." The question at issue, he said, was, whether Government agency should be employed for spiritual purposes. The question was not a new one; for objections to Church Establishments had existed since 1662, and even earlier, but it was only in modern times, and as the result of many past conflicts, that it had come to be widely felt that the State should leave all religious bodies to give proof of the vitality of their respective systems, by according to them only protection, and not patronage and support. It was to obtain the general recognition of this principle that the Liberation Society was established in 1844. It began its work by stimulating those who already held its views, and then but little notice was taken of its proceedings. When, how-

ever, it had acquired force, it sought to bring its principles to bear upon Parliament, by uniting with the Liberal party in endeavouring to obtain measures embodying, to any extent, the principle of religious equality. As the result, it had obtained important concessions to Dissenters at Oxford and Cambridge. It had secured an amendment of the Burial Laws, and had helped to abolish Ministers' Money. It had abolished Church-rates in many parishes, and had since carried an Abolition Bill to the House of Lords. The Qualification for Offices Bill had four times been carried through the Commons; since the society was framed the Clergy Reserves had been abolished in Canada; Jews had been admitted to Parliament, and in the colonies State grants for religious purposes had nearly ceased. These successes had alarmed the hierarchy, who had now arrayed themselves against the whole design of the society. The character of the contest was now changed. Nothing was to be conceded on its merits. Everything Dissenters desired was to be sternly refused, and every right and privilege of the Church was to be regarded as an entrenchment behind which the Establishment was to be defended. One result of this was that no Dissenter could now be neutral. The Bicentenary agitation had put an end to the one-sided truce which had paralysed the energies of many Dissenters. Religious Dissent was now as grievous an offence as political Dissent, and the Church of England was assuming an aggressive attitude—in proof of which quotations were given from recent speeches of Churchmen. A great contest was approaching, and Voluntaries should review their position. Their real force was only half developed, though the aims of the Liberation Society were never so thoroughly appreciated by Dissenters as now. They must now unite more closely, and develop that enormous force which was at their command. They had abundant materials in the state of public opinion; in the tendencies of the age; in the spread of justice, of free trade, and of free inquiry; and in the utterances of European statesmen and philosophers. They had but to stand their ground, and their triumph would be sure. The paper concluded with an exposition of the present duties of the Voluntary party, both in Parliament and in the country. The paper was listened to with the closest attention, and was much applauded.

The Rev. GEORGE WHITEHEAD (Shotley-bridge) said that after the very admirable and singularly comprehensive statement to which they had just listened, he thought there would be no difficulty in presenting the resolution he now held in his hand. He felt unfeigned satisfaction in moving:—

That this Conference greatly rejoices at the progress already made towards the attainment of the object aimed at by the Liberation Society, as evidenced not only by the character of modern legislation and the tendencies of public sentiment, but by the alarm of the supporters of the State-Church system and their organised efforts in its defence. That at the same time the conference is impressed with the necessity for corresponding exertions on the part of those who believe political establishments for religious purposes to be hurtful to religion, as well as to the general interests of the community.

("Hear," and applause.) The resolution, he said, spoke of the necessity of corresponding exertions on the part of the friends of the society. He hoped that those corresponding exertions would not be wanting in the North of England in connexion with this great and important movement. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JOHN HALCRO (Sunderland), in seconding the motion, said he most heartily rejoiced in the progress of modern legislation with reference to Christianity in this country from the time of the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts to that law which granted admission to Dissenters into our Universities. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) Still there was a large amount of darkness which called for agitation and energetic efforts to enlighten the public mind. After insisting on the importance of showing that their object was purely spiritual, he referred to the Lord Chancellor's scheme, and said it was evidently a traffic in men's souls. (Hear, hear.) He knew that the Church of England groaned under the burdens that were imposed upon her, and that her ministers felt deeply the imposition of the articles and formularies of their Church. It was in the interest of these men that the society was acting; in the interest of Englishmen, and in the interest of Christ's Church, that it was advocating those principles. ("Hear," and applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Rev. J. C. GEIKIE (Sunderland) moved the next resolution:—

That, while deeming it expedient to continue to press upon the attention of Parliament practical measures for giving effect to the principle of religious equality, this Conference is of opinion that the upholders of that principle should prepare themselves for bolder and more systematic action in the parish vestries, and through the medium of the platform and the press, to create a sound public opinion in relation to ecclesiastical questions, and to guide that opinion into such channels as will influence the future proceedings of the Legislature.

One of the results of that conference should be to commit them to a course of definite and decided action. (Hear, hear.) The parish vestries were the things to be attended to, and in Bishopwearmouth the battle was being nobly fought by Mr. Backhouse. (Loud applause.) He thought they should keep the spiritual as well as the political side of the question before the public; for the real force of any action depended upon its moral weight. As to minorities, it was well known that everything could be carried by minorities if they only worked hard enough. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Minorities would always be successful if worked with energy, and when the tide began to turn it had a wonderful power of accretion. (Hear, hear.) The work on which they were engaged must necessarily progress slowly, but of the ultimate success of their efforts he had no doubt. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. W. WILLIAMS (Newcastle) gladly seconded the resolution, especially as he represented one portion of the Methodist body. (Hear, hear.)

After some observations from Mr. MIALI, relative to new topics to be brought before Parliament,

The Rev. GEORGE BELL said if they were really to be successful in this movement they must do the best they could to convince their Church friends that they intended them as a Church no ill, but wished for their prosperity. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. H. TEESDALE (South Shields) said it became Dissenters to proclaim what they were, and show that they were not ashamed of their principles. (Hear, hear.) By only putting forward a small portion of their principles, by only inserting the small end of the wedge, they did not gain anything.

Mr. A. COMMON (Sunderland) said they had always avowed that their object was the separation of the Church and State. (Hear, hear.) He entirely approved of the boldest possible measure that could be taken.

Mr. MOORE (Forest Hill) said that there was no doubt, if this Irish Church question could be carried through Parliament, the Maynooth grant would be gone and gone for ever.

Mr. COWEN, jun. (Newcastle), said the mass of the Church of England knew that the Dissenters as a body meant them no harm as a Church. He thought that a bold and straightforward attitude towards them would be as likely to win support as any apologetic attribute. (Hear, hear.) He knew of no man better calculated to promote this cause than Mr. Miall—(Hear, hear)—a cause which he had served for many years—(applause)—and he should be glad, if in that or some of the neighbouring parts they could induce Mr. Miall to come forward as a Parliamentary candidate, and not only come forward but be returned. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He felt, however, there would never be any advance in the question till there was a change in the composition of the House of Commons, as there was amongst its members an understanding to preserve the present state of things. (Hear, hear.) The only way to bring about that change was by widening the franchise. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He thought that when an election took place—and there might be one next year—they might send a Nonconformist from this part of the kingdom. Even supposing they did not return their candidate, if they went to the poll again and again they would show that they were determined and not ashamed of their cause. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. WIGHT (Sunderland) referred to the Church-rate litigation in Monkwearmouth. If the Dissenters were united in a body they could defend those cases which come up year after year in the same manner as Mr. Backhouse had done. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. EDWARD BACKHOUSE (Sunderland), who had taken the chair during a temporary absence of the chairman, said that, with respect to the remarks of those speakers who wished them to show that they were not aiming at the destruction of the Church of England, his own impression was that they were all there as Christian professors, and as Christian men desiring all increase of grace and mercy and truth in every branch of the Christian church. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) He himself was a member of that association, because he felt he was acting upon New Testament principles; and if he did it upon New Testament principles, he did it upon no man's opinion. (Applause.) They felt that in moving as they desired to do in this matter, their success would tend to place the Episcopalian Church upon the same basis as all other churches, and would help it to stand by its own vitality. (Hear, hear.) That was what they wanted to be at, and there was nothing whatever in their feelings towards the Episcopalian Church but that right Christian feeling which Christian men ought to entertain. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. W. BONTOMS (Hartlepool), referring to the bill before Parliament for the sale of livings for the purpose of augmenting the income of the living, characterised it as one of the most unjust as well as one of the most foolish measures which had been proposed for many a day. (Hear, hear.) And yet a large portion of the Liberal papers looked upon it as a good thing, and had given their adhesion to it. He thought that a good deal of their success in Parliament in former years arose from the work that was done out of doors. (Hear.)

The Rev. H. T. ROBINSON and Mr. STRACHAN (South Shields), advocated a distinct utterance of the views of voluntaries, and after some remarks from the Rev. R. BROWN (Newcastle), the resolution was carried.

Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, secretary to the society, then rose, amidst hearty plaudits, to address the conference on local organisation and local action. He described the various modes in which local committees might aid the society, and the facilities which existed in the present day for making the influence of the provinces duly felt in Parliament, and in the direction of public opinion. He also detailed the steps taken by the executive committee to collect information, and to make it available for the use of the society's friends throughout the country. He urged the wide distribution of publications as one of the best modes of removing misconception. He also suggested that voluntaries in towns ought to give themselves no rest until they had cleared the surrounding rural parishes of Church-rates, and expressed the opinion that, under existing circumstances, the law-courts furnished a much less hopeful arena of action than the parish vestries.

Mr. COMMON then moved the following resolution:—

That in furtherance of the views already expressed, the conference deems it to be most desirable that there should be either local committees or recognised correspondents of the

society in every town and populous village in the counties of Durham and Northumberland. That it should be the duty of such local agencies, 1, to promote the circulation of the society's publications, and to seize every opportunity for the advancement of their principles through the medium of the local press; 2, to secure the delivery of lectures, or addresses, by means of which sound ecclesiastical principles will be directly or indirectly inculcated, and more especially among the younger portion of the Nonconformist body; 3, by seeking to secure the abolition of Church-rates where they are not yet extinguished, and particularly in rural parishes; 4, by increasing the number of electors and of representatives who are favourable to the principles of religious equality, and by using the opportunities afforded by Parliamentary elections for the advocacy of their views; and, by adopting such other constitutional means as local circumstances may suggest and local resources permit.

Every point in the motion had already been spoken to with great clearness and ability by Mr. Williams. (Hear, and cheers.) Local committees were of very great importance, but they should be composed of hearty workers. ("Hear," and cheers.) The distribution of tracts among the millions was a matter of immense importance, as they were full of information. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. H. TEESDALE seconded the resolution. The circulation of the society's publications would do much to disabuse the public mind on certain points, and personal influence would be found to be highly effective. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. S. GOODALL, of Durham, having made some local allusions, Mr. DRANSFIELD expressed deep sympathy with the remarks which Mr. Williams had made with regard to the care to be taken in indoctrinating the minds of the young, which he considered to be a matter of pre-eminent importance. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was then adopted.

The Rev. G. STEWART (Newcastle), moved, and Mr. J. COWEN, jun., seconded the next resolution:—

That the conference is further of opinion that to carry on those extended operations which are both called for and facilitated by the current of public events, an augmented income ought to be placed at the disposal of the executive committee; and it therefore expresses a hope that the friends of the society in this and the adjoining county, will strenuously exert themselves to increase the present scale of subscriptions, the number of subscribers, and the number of places from which contributions are received.

Mr. Cowen said he knew no society which had done so large an amount of work with so small an amount of money as the Liberation Society had done. ("Hear," and cheers.) He had read their publications for many years, and was surprised they should have been able to collect such a mass of information, and deliver it so cheaply as they had done. (Applause.) He hoped that from this time Newcastle would give an increased amount of support. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. W. WALTERS read a note from Edward Pease, Esq., Darlington, stating that he should be unable to attend that meeting, but should be glad to have his name put down for a subscription of 5l.

After some practical suggestions from Mr. Dransfield, Mr. Miall, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Andrew, the motion was carried.

The Rev. J. WARD (Gateshead) proposed, and the Rev. W. BONTOMS seconded, and it was agreed to:—

That a committee be appointed to give effect to the resolutions of this conference, and that it consist of the chairman and secretaries, together with the following gentlemen. [The names were read.]

The Rev. W. WALTERS next moved:—

That the conference expresses its great gratification at the attendance of Edward Miall, Esq., and J. Carvell Williams, Esq., on the present occasion, and an earnest hope that their visit to this district may greatly further the cause for which they have so long laboured.

(Loud applause.) It had been to him a source of unspeakable pleasure, the bringing into this district such men as Mr. Miall and Mr. Williams. ("Hear, hear," and loud cheers.) The chairman had truthfully styled Mr. Miall the apostle of this great movement. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that that gentleman's life would be spared for many years to labour in this great cause. He could not see why the people of Newcastle could not send Mr. Miall to the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Williams deserved all praise for the unostentatious, persevering way in which he had worked this society. (Hear, hear.) It was very much through his efforts that it had reached its present position. (Great applause.)

The Rev. A. HOLLIDAY (Newcastle-on-Tyne) seconded the motion, which was carried amidst applause.

Mr. MIALI, in acknowledging the compliment on behalf of Mr. Williams and himself, said he had been most agreeably disappointed—(Hear, hear)—with the whole character of that meeting; and he should be disagreeably disappointed unless it led to some important practical results. (Hear, hear.) There seemed to be no really good and substantial reasons why the North here should not be a strong arm of support to the Liberation Society. (Hear, hear.) They should be delighted to take to the executive committee a report of what had been done that morning. (Hear, hear.) A conference of that character could not have taken place in Newcastle without producing a very great moral change. ("Hear, hear," and applause.)

A vote of thanks was cordially passed to the chairman and secretaries of the conference, and to the committee who had undertaken the requisite arrangements, and to the ministers and deacons of the Berwick-street church for the use of the lecture-room of the chapel.

This most successful conference was then dissolved, the members afterwards dining together at the Neville Hotel.

THE PUBLIC MEETING.

In the evening a public meeting was held in the Lecture-room, Nelson-street, which was filled by an enthusiastic audience; most of the delegates to the

conference being present. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Candlish, of Sunderland, Mr. Edward Backhouse, of that town, an influential member of the Society of Friends, presided.

The CHAIRMAN having opened the proceedings in an admirable speech descriptive of the objects in view, and the spirit in which they wished to advocate them,

The Rev. W. WALTERS was the first speaker. He said he was glad to find that Mr. Miall and Mr. Williams had been prevailed on to visit them on behalf of the society at this time. (Cheers.) They had that day a most successful conference—such a one certainly as he never anticipated they should have held in Newcastle; and they had had a large number of persons representing those bodies of Dissenters resident in the counties of Northumberland and Durham and exhibiting a great amount of warm and earnest feeling. The gentlemen who had committed themselves to the cause in such a way as they had done could not honourably turn their backs on it; and he hoped that as the result of their conference that morning they should find a local organisation established throughout those two counties, and the great principle of the society brought to bear on the public in such a way as it had never done previously. (Applause.) He was delighted to see such a large meeting held that night.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS followed. He claimed credit for the Liberators for straightforwardness and ingenuousness. He ridiculed the idea that they had only lately dropped the mask, and quoted from *Blackwood's Magazine*, of 1834, a passage containing precisely the same statement. The "ulterior aims" objection was another State device, for it was referred to in the debate on the Test Act in the time of Pitt, who had the wisdom to say that he would not object to concede what he ought to concede, because he might be asked for something which he ought not to concede. He proceeded to point out that their designs were unselfish, and that they were in harmony with the best traits of the national character; pointing out to what an extent voluntarism was relied on in manufactures and trade, in benevolence, and also in religion. The public contrasted the pretensions of the Establishment with its actual achievements; giving some important statistics respecting the Church of England and Nonconformists in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, he contended that the Church was itself more injured than Dissenters were by enforced taxation, and quoted from the speeches and writings of Churchmen to prove that the levying of rates and the support of the State had the effect of cramping individual benevolence. They had on that platform no word to utter against the religious views of the Church of England; but they did object to a system which pressed law in the place of love, and employed the carnal weapons of the world instead of the spiritual weapons of the Gospel. Against these things they waged, and meant to wage, unceasing war; and of the system of which they formed part they could exclaim, in the striking language of Thomas Carlyle—"From the souls of men, from the ends of nature, from the throne of God, there are voices bidding it, 'Away! away!' Does it take no warning? Does it stand on its Acts of Parliament and its physical force? The more woe is it, the frightful woe. It will continue standing for its day, for its year, for its century, doing evil all the while; but it has an enemy who is almighty; dissolution, explosion, and the everlasting laws of nature incessantly advance towards it; and the deeper its rooting, the more obstinate its continuing, the deeper also, and the huger will its ruin and overturn be." (Loud applause.)

Mr. MIALI was the next speaker. He said he came there as a political Dissenter, to Newcastle, not to bring them coals—(loud laughter)—but he trusted to bring them light. (Much laughter and applause.) And if with that light there were some warmth—(Hear, hear, and laughter)—perhaps the beneficial action would not be the less on that account. (Hear, hear.) He thanked his foes for the services they had done him. (Applause.) He found that the more they rained execrations upon his head and upon his name, the more thoroughly he was welcomed by those before whom he stood, and the more intently he was listened to in producing the arguments and reasons by which he sustained the cause he advocated. (Loud cheers.) So, even in Newcastle, notwithstanding all that might have been said in one direction or another, to prevent a respectable audience from being gathered together, and to exclude from the chair any man who had the slightest regard for his character—(Hear, hear)—he believed that even in Newcastle that plan had not succeeded. (Applause.) He proceeded to notice the charge that the members of the Society were "political Dissenters," and to show why they were so. He subsequently commented on the Augmentation of Benefices Bill. He said he would make any sacrifice of his own, he would give up and forego any rights which he possessed rather than conscience should be so utterly demoralised by custom and tradition as to allow of religious interests to be trafficked in the public market, under the cognisance and under the provisions of the public law. (Cheers and a few hisses.) There were some present he perceived who wished it to be so. (Renewed cheers and hisses.) Let them enjoy the proud distinction. (Loud applause and laughter.) He for one did not feel at all inclined to participate with them in the sentiment which they advocated. (Cheers and hisses.) [A Voice, in angry accents: I pay for my priest as well as any Dissenter. (Laughter and uproar.) I pay my seat-rents as well as any man.] (Laughter and hisses.) It was only those who did not pay that were sold. (Hear, hear,

"and laughter.) Therefore the reflection did not fall upon those who not only paid but gloried in paying. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) His friend up there ought to be upon the same platform as themselves. (Cheers and laughter.) They were contending for the same principles. Let them go on in their triumphant savagery, for it was so. (Hear, hear.) Let them turn us out of their burial-grounds, out of their schools, out of all privileges, until they had the reaction which would be produced in the minds of all Englishmen that loved fair play. (Applause.) It was their time of triumph; they cast the dirt upon us. When our time of triumph came, we would try to deliver them from the pollution in which they existed without knowing it. (Hear, hear, and applause.) They professed principles which were identical with the truth of the God of justice, and all that was noble, and with all that ought to be cherished by mankind, and that would hereafter stamp themselves in peace and truth and righteousness in that Kingdom which was held out to every man. (Mr. Miall sat down amidst applause.)

Mr. J. COWEN, jun., then proposed the appointment of a local committee. There had been a most satisfactory conference held that morning numerously attended, and composed of able and earnest men; and he hoped that in this district, and in the North of England generally, it would be the beginning of better things for the cause which that society was established to promote. (Hear, hear.) He thought it was to some extent a reflection upon the Dissenters, and those individuals amongst them who believed in the principles which that society was established to promote, that more had not been done for it in this district. He hoped they would forgive their shortcomings in the past on their endeavouring to increase and redouble their exertions for the future. (Applause.)

Rev. R. LEITCH (United Presbyterian) seconded the motion, and after its adoption the Rev. G. BELL and the Rev. H. ROWJOHN proposed a vote of thanks to the deputation, and, after the chairman had been thanked, the meeting broke up at ten o'clock.

WAKEFIELD.

A *soirée* in connection with the Wakefield branch of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control was held on Friday evening in the Music Saloon. In the first instance a very excellent tea was provided, which having been discussed, a public meeting was held. Amongst the gentlemen present were—the Revs. J. Bewglass, LL.D., J. S. Eastmead, H. Sanders, G. Barnby, G. C. Catterall, W. Colcroft, P. Cannon, T. Willis (Pontefract), Alderman Rhodes, Councilors Lee, Ash, Calverley, and J. Taylor, Messrs. H. Briggs, T. Bruce, W. Kitching, J. Northrop, W. Oakes (Finsbury), G. Mander, J. Ellis, and P. Ellis (Ossett), J. Robinson, B. Rowley, &c., &c. Mr. Councilor Lee was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN having briefly explained the objects of the Liberation Society, the Rev. H. SANDERS then spoke on the topic, "Opposition to Church Establishments, based on Scriptural principles, and promoted by Christian feeling."

The Rev. J. H. EASTMEAD dealt with the sentiment, "A Church establishment no guarantee for the existence of unity of belief, and no defence against religious error." Supposing he decided to become a Churchman, the first question would be, which branch of the Church Establishment should he join.

In the first place, he was a lover of beautiful forms, and then he was very fond of music and liked to hear the service as it is performed in York Minster. Well, if he preferred the processional service, and the one which consisted of forms, he should have to join that sect in the Church of England called the Puseyites. But he could not join the Puseyites, for he could not believe in the doctrine of baptismal regeneration. If he could not join the Puseyites, whom should he? That represented by the Bishop of Oxford? Certainly not. That sect represented by Maurice and Kingsley? He could not. Who then should he join? The party represented by Canons Stowell and Miller—good sound Evangelical men? No, for they ought not to be in the Church, but ought to come out of it. Could he join the sceptical party represented by the Essayists and Bishop Colenso? He could not, but the review would show that there appear to be as many distinct sects within as outside its pale. (Cheers.) He could not say so many in number, but certainly they differ as much as the sects outside. Where is the unity of belief? He asked, and a very distant echo answers, "where?" There is no unity of belief, but there should be, for they are under an Act of Uniformity intended to effect that, but which has accomplished the very opposite.

Mr. MIALL then addressed the meeting in a speech of considerable length, in which he dwelt upon the objects of the Liberation Society, the triumphs it had already achieved, the work yet to be done, and the spirit in which the movement should be carried on. After discussing the debate on the Burials Bill, and the Lord Chancellor's scheme for the Sale of Crown livings, he concluded by saying:—It was to deliver the Church from this low and demoralised state of things which its own system induces that he laboured, and the society laboured, and when these things have passed away, their successors, looking at what their fathers sanctioned, will bless them for the deliverance. They have a good cause, which God will bless, and they will work in it to the end of their days, bequeathing it to those who come after them, until the Church of Christ is purified, and all men—religiously considered—stand on an equal footing before the law. (Loud and reiterated cheers.)

The Rev. G. BARNBY next spoke on the sentiment, "Religious equality necessary for the full enjoyment of civil rights; and in harmony with all the

principles of modern legislation and the tendencies of modern thought."

Dr. BEWGLASS then proposed the following topic, "An Established Church indefensible on any principle, whether of justice, reason, or Scripture." In a few pithy remarks with regard to seizures for tithes he had himself known, he showed that an Establishment is indeed, inconsistent with "justice, reason, and Scripture."

The Rev. G. C. CATTERALL proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Miall. He said that he had been interested in and connected with the Liberation Society from its commencement, and he paid a high tribute to the integrity and ability of Mr. Miall.

The Rev. W. COLCROFT seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation, as was a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE BISHOPS AND DR. COLENZO.

Dr. Ellicott, who did not sign the episcopal round-robin to Bishop Colenso, because at the time that extraordinary document was got up he had not passed through all the stages necessary to the full possession of the see of Gloucester and Bristol, has just proved that he is not one whit behind his brother prelates in his cordial desire to get rid of the Bishop of Natal. In a letter to his clergy he says they are bound to call upon Dr. Colenso to resign his present position in the Church of England, and he sincerely trusts "that on serious reflection he may see the mere outward justice of following this necessary course, and may spare us all the pain of adopting those public measures for removing (as you justly term it) this reproach and dishonour from our Church." The bishop says that the influence excited by Dr. Colenso's volumes is daily becoming less and less.

Our plain English good sense repudiates the idea that supposed discrepancies in dates or numbers, or that old and worn-out difficulties, resting to a great degree on mere arithmetical details, are to shake our faith in holy records which every age of the Church has venerated and believed in; and it also recognises with becoming seriousness that, even thus early in this melancholy controversy, it has graciously pleased the Eternal Spirit that those holy records in which he spake should already be vindicated by several answers which every fair reader feels to be conclusive and triumphant.

The Bishop of Salisbury has issued a letter to his clergy, warning them against opening their pulpits to the Bishop of Natal. He adds:—

Whatever is within the power of those charged with such responsibilities as I am, to testify our sense of the enormity of the offence committed by the Bishop of Natal, and our anxious concern lest souls may be led astray by such false teaching, to the loss of their hope in Christ, and our determination to guard with all godly jealousy the sacred deposit of truth entrusted to our stewardship, that we are without doubt bound to do. The bishop bespeaks their prayers that the prelate "who has so fearfully betrayed his trust" may be brought to repentance.

The Bishop of Lincoln has added his interdict to those of others of his brethren against Dr. Colenso. His lordship has no fear that a single clergyman in his diocese will sympathise with the Bishop of Natal or his views, but as a mere matter of duty, and as an expression of his own opinions, he forbids him his diocese.

The Bishop of Bangor has also issued a letter to his clergy distinctly inhibiting Dr. Colenso from officiating in any church in the diocese.

DISSENTERS AT THE UNIVERSITIES.

A meeting of gentlemen interested in the promotion of religious liberty was held on Wednesday at the Manchester Town-hall; Mr. Jas. Heywood presided. Amongst others present were Mr. Alderman Neild, Mr. H. J. Leppoc, Mr. J. Reiss, Mr. R. N. Phillips, the Rev. Dr. Beard, the Rev. W. Gaskell, Professor Roscoe, and Mr. H. A. Bright (Liverpool).

The CHAIRMAN said he had summoned this meeting on account of a movement now going on in the liberal party at Cambridge and Oxford. From Cambridge, a petition signed by seventy fellows of colleges has been presented to Parliament by Mr. Bouverie for the opening of fellowships. This originated in the practical working of the act of 1856, opening Cambridge degrees to Dissenters as well as Churchmen. Two Protestant Dissenters, who had since then become senior wranglers at Cambridge, would naturally have succeeded to fellowships but for the religious test imposed by the Act of Uniformity. From conscientious scruples these two young gentlemen had declined fellowships, and this was a considerable loss to Trinity College, to which they belonged. Mr. Bouverie would bring in a bill shortly after Easter to open fellowships without any test whatever, and to give any college the power to take advantage of this new enactment, which would not be compulsory on all the colleges. At Oxford there was also a liberal party of about 50 gentlemen, including Dr. Liddell, Canon Stanley, Professor Jowett, and Sir B. Brodie, who were about to petition in favour of opening degrees, endowments, and offices at their university. These gentlemen were representatives of a liberal minority at that university. The universities themselves were well known to be essentially conservative. By the acts of 1854 and 1856 it was the wish of the legislature not to interfere more than could be helped with the seats of learning, and the acts merely withdrew the test from matriculation and degrees, leaving the colleges themselves to work out the practical questions as well as they could. In Oxford the majority of the colleges had set themselves decidedly against the wishes of the legislature. The majority of the heads of houses had refused to admit any persons who were known to be Dissenters. It was evident that with-

out a further movement the old universities would remain very nearly as much closed as they were before. A petition would be laid before this meeting which had been drawn up in conformity with the views of the liberal minority at Oxford. Sir B. Brodie had told him it was very desirable there should be movement outside as well as within the universities. (Hear, hear.) The present restrictions were felt to be a great barrier in the way of liberalism in the Church of England itself, as well as affecting Dissenters. (Applause.)

Mr. R. N. PHILIPS moved:—

"That the whole community is deeply interested in the system of education which is provided at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge for persons who may afterwards be placed in high positions of power; and that liberty of thought is restricted, and the supply of suitable candidates for important situations is limited, by the religious tests, which confine the possession of the more important collegiate endowments to members of the Church of England, and maintain ecclesiastical barriers to the attainment both of corporate and political franchises in the two ancient seats of learning."

Mr. J. L. KENNEDY seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously.

Mr. H. A. BRIGHT (Liverpool) moved the adoption of the following petition:—

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The petition of the undersigned friends of religious liberty humbly sheweth,—That the legislation of 1854 and 1856 for the universities and colleges of Oxford and Cambridge has only resulted in a partial opening of those venerable seats of learning and science. That religious tests were removed from matriculation, and the degree of bachelor in arts, law, medicine, and music, by the Oxford University Act of 1854, but that a large majority of the heads of houses in Oxford have not since the passing of that act received any students into the colleges over which they respectively preside, except members of the Church of England. That college scholarships are not generally open at Oxford, as at Cambridge, without religious test. That the degrees of master of arts, and of doctor in laws, medicine, and music, are only granted at Oxford to candidates who subscribe the Thirty-nine Articles, as well as the three articles of the Thirty-sixth Canon of the Church of England, and that these degrees are associated with the privilege of the elective franchise, which is limited to masters of arts and other higher graduates. That no elector is allowed to be enrolled on the register of the University of Cambridge unless he has declared himself a *bond fide* member of the Church of England; nor is any resident master of arts or other higher graduate permitted to vote in the election of the local university officers, or to hold any professorship, until after such declaration of church-membership. That college fellowships are restricted both at Oxford and Cambridge to candidates who have subscribed a declaration of conformity to the liturgy of the Church of England as by law established, and that cases have occurred at Cambridge within the last few years of graduates who have attained the highest mathematical honours as senior wranglers, and who have declined, solely from conscientious principles, to become candidates for college fellowships. That your petitioners pray your honourable House that such alterations may be made in the regulations of the universities and colleges of Oxford and Cambridge as will more completely open to merit the rewards of academical learning, and confer on suitably qualified persons the corporate and political privileges of the ancient seats of English learning and science.—And your petitioners will ever pray, &c., &c.

He said it was just ten years since he, having passed examinations at Cambridge, found himself shut out from degrees because he was unable to declare himself a *bond fide* member of the Church of England. By Mr. Heywood's exertions the barriers were removed, and after a few years he obtained the degrees of B.A. and M.A. But it was a monstrous thing that fellowships were still closed against those who would not take the test, and that such a man as Sir C. Lyell could not become a professor of geology at Cambridge. Nothing, however, should be done in this movement to alienate the alliance of the liberal party at Oxford. As to the religious disability from voting for members for the universities, he hoped if the removal of it could not be effected as a measure of university reform, it would be made a question of political reform. (Applause.)

Mr. C. POTTER seconded the motion, and the petition was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Alderman NEILD moved, and Professor ROSCOE seconded, the appointment of a committee in Manchester to co-operate in the movement.

POPERY IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

EASTER SUNDAY AT CLAYDON CHURCH.

The *Suffolk Chronicle* contains a remarkable account, from an eye-witness, of the strange doings in the parish church, Claydon, on Easter Sunday. Claydon is a small village about four miles from Ipswich, and the incumbent is the Rev. George Drury, who was the principal actor on the occasion referred to. The incumbent appears to have been aided by a couple of mysterious individuals known in the village as monks, one being distinguished by the name of Father Ignatius. It seems that on the Thursday (the eve of Good Friday) a confessional was held, Mr. Drury sitting alone in one part of the church, and the persons who were weak enough to confess going to him singly. In one case, the monk ordered a man out, because he would not "go and confess," told him he "was safe to go to hell" if he refused, and, as he would not leave the church when requested, the lights, excepting four on the altar, were put out. This little confessing game was going on during Thursday night into Friday morning. In different parts of the church were pictures of Christ on the cross, and a cross, flowers, candles, &c., in a recess behind the altar. There were also wreaths of flowers around, and other ornaments. The writer goes on to describe the scene on Easter Sunday:—

Shortly after ten o'clock, a young man, wrapped up

in what looked very much like a white sheet, took his place in a pew on the north side of the chancel. Mr. Drury, attired in a long black gown, with a short surplice over it, and long bands reaching nearly to his feet, soon made his appearance. In passing the altar he gave it a familiar sort of nod, which grew into greater reverence as the morning advanced. He took his seat in a pew on the south side of the chancel, immediately opposite the dark young man in white. Three candles were then burning. The entire congregation comprised two boys, a young lady, and two gentlemen from Ipswich. Mr. Drury at once proceeded with the morning service in his usual mumbling style. No one present, except the gentleman in white, took any part therein. Other company straggled in as the hour announced for "solemn full service and sermon"—eleven—approached. During this preliminary service one of the monks stole in quietly and took away the banners. Subsequently this pale gentleman, dressed in his long woollen gown, entered the chancel and knelt down on the altar-step. In a short time the church bell began to toll, and the steeple being quite open to the church, the sound effectually drowned the rev. pastor's voice, who nevertheless kept on, a few mumbling tones being heard between the striking of the bell. Every time the monk passed the altar he bowed with profound reverence, and occasionally when he left the altar he went down the steps backwards. At a certain part of the service the monk was seen walking off with a wax candle from near the altar, nearly as big as a telegraph-post, and he for a time disappeared. He was soon in again, and, throwing himself on his knees on the altar-steps, bowed. Soon a match was heard, and this ubiquitous individual re-appeared and lighted two candles. Shortly, a youth, in a black gown, with a short surplice over, came in sight with the censer. While these and other things were going on, we asked a young countryman if all this was the ordinary part of the service. "No," he said, "something fresh to-day." "Do you come to church on Sundays?" "Yes." "What do these candles mean?" With a broad grin he said, "That's thar religion" (meaning the religion of Mr. Drury and his monkish assistants). "Do these poor folks know what all these things mean?" "Tan's much likely." "What do they come for?" "I don't know." "What do you come for?" "Only jist to look at 'em."

The stopping of the bell interrupts this conversation. Silence is broken by the creaking of the door, and everybody stands up. A procession from the rectory enters the church. At the door, a stoppage takes place to light the candles. This done, the procession comes down the nave, headed by two lads, each bearing a large wax candle; next a taller boy, laughing as he comes, carrying a long brass standard tipped with a crucifix, on which was exhibited the body of Christ. Monk No. 1 sings in a noisy and most unmusical voice, "Alleluia," boys carry small coloured banners, on one or two of which appears the painted head of our Saviour. Monk No. 2 carries one of these; Mr. Drury is nearly at the rear, wearing a chasuble, with embroidered stripes, and a small four-cornered hat; after him a girl with a banner, and so they go up to the altar. The lads wore white surplices—two having scarlet underskirts reaching down to their feet and small black velvet skull-caps on their heads. Arrived at the altar, they take their places on either side of the chancel. Mr. Drury advances to the altar, takes off his hat, and the congregation sits down. Four of the lads are stationed at the foot of the altar-steps, facing the altar, and the Communion Service begins. In the meantime, most of the candles have been lighted.

During part of the service, a lad stood at the foot of the altar-steps with the brass crucifix, and others knelt on his right and left. At intervals, the choristers fell on their knees and looked to the east; Mr. Drury did most of his work with his back to the congregation. The Epistle and Gospel were intoned by Monk No. 1, the Gospel being intoned from the north side of the altar, whither three lads were marched. Two stood in a line, each holding a large wax candle: between them rested the Prayer-book, and behind them stood a larger boy, holding over their heads, we believe, a crucifix. In front of the three stood the ever-active monk. The service was frequently interrupted by the organ; the boys were moved and arranged and re-arranged, as required. Mr. Drury bowed for some moments at the altar, and soon went to a seat on the south side of the chancel. The monk appeared in the pulpit habited in two or three garments of varied cut, and having turned to the altar and dotted his forehead and breast as he mentioned the persons of the Trinity, proceeded to rattle away with his sermon with all the fervour of a crusader. In the course of his sermon, he took the opportunity of saying there was one thing he must mention as a warning to persons who had been to communion for the first time that morning—it was a most painful thing for him to have to tell them of. The blessed step of the altar was sprinkled about with the sacrament—little pieces of the sacrament had been dropped about on the steps, and there were some on the altar still, which the people had dropped that morning. How was it they dropped it—that they dropped about that of which Jesus had said, "This is my body"? It was because they did not receive it in a proper way. It should be received in the palm of hand, for if the finger and thumb were used, little pieces would be dropped, and fancy dropping that which the catechism told them was verily and indeed the body and blood of Christ! The clergy had had to pick up the pieces that were dropped by the people, and it had caused a great deal of perturbation and agony and trouble of the mind to the clergy, to see the solemn bread of everlasting life dropped about.

The sermon over, the preacher took round a small scarlet bag and made a collection. The boy dangled the censer about at the foot of the altar-steps. Mr. Drury at the altar turned his back to the people and appeared to be doing a little mysterious manipulation to himself. More incense, and Mr. Drury received a cup from the monk. At a given point, the censer was taken away and the monk lighted two more candles—making eighteen in all now burning. Mr. Drury mumbles out something of the sacramental service; the boys at the altar-steps go down upon their knees in an instant; the censer comes again, and there is more incense. More singing; one of the boys, wearing a scarlet skirt under his short surplice, lights a large wax candle which stands at either corner of the highest altar-step. These make twenty candles in full blaze. Mr. Drury kneels in front of the altar, gracefully spreads out his arms, gathers them in, and apparently prays. Steam is again got up in the censer, and the sanctified priest is nearly obscured

with the fumes. The boys in attendance kneel reverently—bring their heads nearly to the floor in true Mahomedan style. Weird-like singing, very badly done, breaks out. Mr. Drury moves, the censer is again cast at the high priest, louder grows the music, and more vehemently still swings the censer. Fresh movements take place amongst the boys. Mr. Drury pronounces the blessing, which brings the Communion Service to a close; the monk leaves the organ and ascends the altar steps. He soon hurries back to the organ; the high priest kneels, and afterwards appears to mix something up; the *Te Deum* is sung, and whilst the priest is engaged at the altar a lad hands him something from a corner cupboard at the north end of the altar. Mr. Drury tosses something off, then advances to the front of the altar, and another something is tossed off. Other little matters are attended to, and the curtain drops. The procession re-forms in the chancel, marches out through the churchyard to the rectory, chanting some dismal wail.

The notice on the church-door announced, "solemn vespers and sermon at seven, with procession"; and some little time before that hour the church was packed right up to a few feet of the sacred altar-steps. The performance was by no means so entertaining as that of the morning. It was part of the same thing, but there was less of it. Monk No. 1, in a different coloured garb, again preached. He did a little more in the seraphic line, but his sermon savoured somewhat of common sense. He, for the most part, left fanciful theories behind, and talked plainly to the people about sin.

At the conclusion, he announced that the collection to be made would go towards establishing an institution of Benedictine brothers in Ipswich! If the gentleman take our advice, he will keep the nuisance where it is.

After the collection, three lads were ranged in front of the altar, facing the congregation, two with banners, the centre one holding up the crucifix before-mentioned. Notwithstanding the crowd, it was determined to have a procession out, and shortly afterwards white figures, like ghosts, were seen wending their way through the dark churchyard to the rectory.

THE CHURCH-RATE ABOLITION BILL comes on for second reading at the day sitting of the House of Commons next Wednesday. An animated debate and an exciting division may be expected. The Opposition whips are, we believe, making the most strenuous efforts to muster the opponents of the measure to throw it out by an absolute majority.

MR. HADFIELD'S QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICE ABOLITION BILL, which lately passed the House of Commons, comes on for second reading in the Lords on Friday next. We believe that Lord Wodehouse—who from 1852 to 1856 occupied the post of Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and was subsequently appointed Ambassador at St. Petersburg—has charge of the bill. His lordship is not at present a member of the Government. The division last year in the House of Lords was as follows:—

Contents	...	55
Non-Contents	...	88
Majority against	...	—33

Seventeen Peers, who were among the Contents of either 1860 or 1861, or both years, were absent from this division. Had they been present, and voted as before, they would have reduced the majority to 16. In 1859 there was no division on the bill in the House of Lords. In 1860 twenty-one, in 1861 thirty-eight, and in 1862 fifty-five of their lordships voted for the bill. The minority of 1862 was, therefore, more than two and a-half times as numerous as that of 1860.

CHURCH-RATES AT SYDENHAM.—On Tuesday a parish poll was again taken at Sydenham. The anti-Church-rate party attended the vestry and opposed the re-election of the usual church officers, and by the course they pursued rendered the poll necessary. The result has only added another to their numerous defeats, the majority on this occasion being greater than that on any previous poll—namely, 324 in favour of the Church party.—*Guardian*. [Our contemporary has been misinformed. The recent poll of the parish was left entirely in the hands of the pro-rate party, the anti-Church-rate inhabitants, numbering several hundreds of votes, declining to interfere in the appointment of church officers. When the question was submitted to the public vestry an amendment was carried by a majority of forty against thirty, embodying the principle of non-interference. The churchwardens demanded a poll, but the anti-rate party declined to vote, with the exception of about thirty persons.]

THE DIVISION ON THE BURIALS BILL.—In 1861 Sir Morton Peto's bill was thrown out by a vote of 236 to 155; this year the present bill, which was the offspring of the House of Commons' committee, met with only ninety-six supporters. In the "noes" of Wednesday are to be found the names of several of the accustomed supporters of "liberation" measures in Parliament. It is understood that the bill was of too moderate a character for a large section of this party, and hence the small number of its supporters, and the apparent anomaly of ecclesiastical Radicals and Tories uniting to defeat it. The Conservatives "whipped" hard to defeat the measure; the Liberal party used no efforts to procure the attendance of members.

THE REV. JOSEPH BARDSLEY.—We understand that the Rev. J. W. Bardsley, B.A., Clerical Missionary of the Islington Protestant Institute, has been appointed to a living in Lancashire, and he will resign his office in connexion with the Protestant Institute at the end of June.—*Islington Gazette*.

UNION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.—A soirée of those favourable to the union of Free, Reformed, and United Presbyterian Churches, was held on Wednesday evening, in the Trades' Hall; Councillor William Brown in the chair. A letter was read from the Rev. Dr. Buchanan, intimating his approval of the objects of the meeting, and ad-

dressess were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Robson, the Rev. Messrs. Arnot, Traill, and M'Dermid. The proceedings were throughout marked by great cordiality and unanimity of sentiment.—*Glasgow Post*.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER IN CANADA.—The Canadian Court of Chancery has just decided that Lord Lyndhurst's act does not apply to Canada, and that, consequently, marriage with a deceased wife's sister is valid in that colony, if no step be taken in the lifetime of the parties to obtain from the Ecclesiastical Court a dissolution of the marriage.

A LITERAL INTERPRETATION.—At the recent meeting on the subject of clerical subscription, one of the speakers illustrated the need of relaxation by an anecdote. In the north of Ireland the hour for morning service was frequently twelve at noon, and a clergyman whom the speaker knew felt a scruple in using the words of the Collect, "who has safely brought us to the beginning of this day." He had been accustomed to alter the word to "middle," and the bishop made no objection, but in the lapse of time the bishop's son, a stickler for rubrical strictness, called attention to the matter, and the result was an admonition to discontinue the variation, and to keep to the strict letter of the Liturgy. The issue was that the venerable clergyman was compelled, out of a small income, to keep a curate to read morning prayer.—*Record*.

THE SUNDAY BANDS IN THE PARKS.—On Thursday afternoon a numerous deputation from the Sunday Bands Association waited upon the Hon. Mr. Cowper, president of the Board of Works, at his office in Whitehall-place, upon the subject of the recent threat of legal proceedings on the part of the opponents of the Sunday bands in the parks against the Government, in order to put a stop to the same. After some remarks from Mr. R. Moore, who said it was the intention of the committee to convene the Sunday bands in the Regent's-park and Victoria-park on the first Sunday in May, Mr. Cowper said he had ordered the erection of the new platform and orchestra not only for the convenience of the bands playing there on the Sunday and week-days, but for the public also, as affording shelter in case of rain. Upon this being done certain inhabitants of the terraces had been to him and had declared that the erection of "buildings" was an infringement of the covenants of their leases, and they called upon him (Mr. Cowper) to remove the new platform. He had refused on the ground that if the platform could be considered a building, then the lodges, fountains, and all other erections in the park must come within the category, and be pulled down. They threatened him with legal proceedings, and he said he did not think that any court would put the same construction on the clause in their leases which they did. They had, however, commenced proceedings in Chancery to compel the removal of the new platform, and he had therefore directed that the old one should be brought back and in readiness to be put up should the Court of Chancery, which he did not anticipate, order the new one to be pulled down. This was how the matter stood. It was his intention also to have a new orchestra placed in Victoria-park.

Religious Intelligence.

ST. THOMAS'S-SQUARE CHAPEL, HACKNEY.—A social meeting of the members of the congregation connected with this chapel was held in the large school-room on Friday evening last, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the ministry of the Rev. William Kirkus, L.L.B., their pastor. The room, which was tastefully decorated, was filled by an enthusiastic audience—who, after partaking of the usual tea provided on such occasions, and adjourning to the chapel to listen to an admirable selection of organ music—reassembled in order to hear from Mr. Kirkus such remarks as were appropriate to the circumstances under which they had met together. In a forcible and earnest speech the reverend gentleman reviewed many of the difficulties which he had encountered during the earlier period of his ministry, and at the same time expressed his unalterable determination to pursue the course upon which he had set out, and never under any circumstances to shrink from maintaining his Christian liberty and proclaiming what he believed to be the truth without regard either to favour or prejudice. The hearty applause with which he was greeted showed that these sentiments were warmly reciprocated by those present. The meeting was afterwards addressed by several ministers of the Nonconformist congregations in the district, and these gentlemen expressed their affection and esteem for Mr. Kirkus, both as a personal friend and an able and honest advocate of Christian truth. W. M. Bullivant, Esq., the treasurer, stated that during the period of Mr. Kirkus's labour, the church, both as regarded attendance and financial position, had never been more flourishing than at present.—*From a correspondent*.

SOUTHPORT.—The Rev. John Chater, Douglas, Isle of Man, has accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate of the church assembling in the West-end Congregational Chapel, Southport, Lancashire.

HALIFAX.—The Rev. Bryan Dale, of Coggeshall, has signified his acceptance of the call to the pastorate of the church assembling in Sion Chapel, Halifax.

EDINBURGH.—An interesting service was held in Augustine Church on Tuesday evening, the 14th of April, for the ordination of Mr. James Williamson and Mr. Henry Cochrane Williamson, students at the Theological Hall of the Congregational Churches of Scotland, who have been accepted as missionaries

by the London Missionary Society. The Rev. John Hutcheson, Dunfermline, read the Scriptures and prayed. The Rev. Dr. M'Michael, Professor of Divinity in the United Presbyterian Church, delivered an able and appropriate discourse from John xi. 47-52. The Rev. Dr. Gowan proposed the usual questions, which were answered in a very satisfactory manner by each of the two brothers. The Rev. William Swan, who has himself served in the missionary field, offered the ordination prayer. The charge was given by the Rev. Dr. W. L. Alexander, and the field of labour described by the Rev. Alexander Williamson, the brother of the young missionaries, who has been in China, and impressively represented the great need and the urgent claims of that vast country. Mr. James Williamson, it is understood, will proceed to China in June, and Mr. H. C. Williamson to Jamaica, but in the hope of ultimately labouring also in the East.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOLS, HIGHFIELD, HUDDERSFIELD.—The foundation-stone of new Congregational schools was laid here recently under highly-encouraging circumstances. The weather was fine, and a large concourse of people assembled to witness the ceremony. The rebuilding of the schools had become an absolute necessity from the steady growth of the classes, which rendered the old building utterly inadequate to the wants of the school. In addition to the twenty-four class-rooms, there will be a large room capable of holding 600 persons, where the proceedings of the school will, Sunday by Sunday, commence and terminate by an aggregate meeting of the classes. There will also be a lecture-room that will hold about 200 people, and a room for infants, which will conveniently contain from 100 to 120. Externally, the building (which is to be in the Italian style of architecture) is likely to be an ornament to the neighbourhood. The cost will be 3,000*l.*, of which 1,500*l.* has already been subscribed without any special canvass. It is expected that the building will be opened by Christmas next. The foundation-stone was laid by Mr. Haigh, after which the Rev. R. Bruce, M.A., made a brief statement, in the course of which he said they did not intend to go to Government for a single penny of that amount. They intended to raise it all themselves, except such sums as their friends of other congregations might give out of their hearts. The Rev. R. Bowman, of Heckmondwike, followed with a most interesting address. A hymn having been sung, the proceedings concluded with the benediction. At the conclusion of the ceremony, tea was provided in the school-room for a large company. After tea a public meeting was held in the chapel, under the presidency of the Rev. R. Bruce.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, ABBEY-FORGE-GATE, SHREWSBURY.—For some years past public attention has been directed to the want of a Congregational chapel in the east and south-eastern parts of Shrewsbury, which would provide accommodation for people residing in Abbey-foregate, Coleham, Belle-vue, and the outlying districts of Meole Brace and Kingsland, which contain a population of more than six thousand. A commanding site, in the centre of the districts before named, was secured, at a cost of 750*l.* A few weeks ago a temporary building, capable of accommodating 300 persons, was fitted up for public worship, and a few friends from the two existing Congregational churches commenced holding religious services there, and a Sabbath-school and other means for the moral and spiritual good of the people were commenced. It was proposed to erect a handsome and substantial building, capable, without side-galleries, of accommodating 750 persons. The expense of such a building, including the site and school-rooms, was estimated at not less than 4,000*l.* Towards this sum, Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P., generously promised 400*l.* The originators of the movement contributed according to their ability, and other friends have already subscribed handsomely to aid them in carrying their endeavour to a successful issue. The plan of the chapel is a parallelogram, seventy-five by forty-five internal dimensions, and the side walls will be of sufficient height for the future galleries. The arrangement of seating is divided by two side aisles, and the accommodation afforded, including that of an end gallery, will be seven hundred. The style adopted is Gothic of the fourteenth century. At the rear of the chapel will be a vestry and lecture-room, and at the side a large school-room and class-rooms, with playground and outbuildings. The architects are Messrs. Bidlake and Spark, of Oswestry; the builders, Messrs. Trow and Sons, of Wednesbury. On Monday week the foundation-stone of the new building was laid by Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P., in the presence of a large number of spectators. The proceedings commenced with singing, reading the Scriptures, and prayer. Mr. John Woodall then presented Mr. Barnes with a trowel and mallet. The trowel was of silver, and of very beautiful workmanship, having an ivory handle. The trowel bore the following inscription, surmounted by the crest of Mr. Barnes:—"Presented to Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P., on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of the Congregational church, Abbey-foregate, Shrewsbury, 13th April, 1863." It was enclosed in a very handsome morocco case. The stone was then laid with due form. Underneath it was deposited a bottle containing a copy of the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, the *Patriot*, the *Nonconformist*, the "Faith, Church Order and Discipline of Congregational Churches," as published by the Congregational Union, and some new coins; also an account of the origin of the Church for which this edifice is to be built, a list of the present subscribers, and the names of the committee. Mr. Barnes, and the Rev. W. H. Dyer, of Bath, then addressed the assembly; the former ex-

plaining the objects with which the Congregationalists were about to build, and the latter entering upon a very able exposition of their opinions and polity. Prayer was then offered by the Rev. E. Hill, of Shrewsbury, and the proceedings terminated. An excellent lunch was afterwards provided at the Crown Hotel, where Mr. Roberts, the host, had provided for his guests with his usual care and taste. After lunch the usual loyal sentiments were proposed by T. Barnes, Esq., M.P., the president, and the proceedings soon after terminated. In the evening a tea-meeting was held in the Music-hall, when about 400 people, a great proportion being ladies, sat down to tea. A meeting was afterwards held, when Mr. Barnes took the chair, and addresses were delivered by him, by Mr. Dyer, Dr. Cranage, and other gentlemen.

WEST RIDING CONGREGATIONAL UNION, &c.—The annual assembly of pastors and delegates of the Independent churches of the West Riding took place during the present week in the town of Huddersfield. The attendance was larger than usual, and the proceedings of a most interesting kind. A devotional service was held on Monday evening in Ramsden-street Chapel, conducted by the Rev. J. Calvert, of Attercliffe, and the Rev. A. Russell, M.A., of Bradford. On Tuesday morning the pastors and delegates assembled in Highfield Chapel under the presidency of the Rev. Amos Blackburn, of Eastwood, who delivered an excellent address reviewing the principal events of the past year affecting the interests of the Congregational body. A most comprehensive and exhaustive paper on "The Evangelisation of Town and Country," prepared by the Rev. J. B. Paton, M.A., of Sheffield, was then read by Mr. Bruce, of Huddersfield (Mr. Paton's health preventing him from being present.) This was followed up by addresses from Samuel Morley, Esq., of London, and the Rev. J. H. Wilson, secretary to the Home Missionary Society for England, in which they gave ample details of the work undertaken by that society and of the remarkable success which has latterly attended its efforts. A short discussion then ensued, but the day being far advanced it was resolved to convene a special meeting of influential laymen and ministers for the single purpose of considering the points raised in Mr. Paton's paper and by the gentlemen who spoke after it; some formal business was then transacted, and the assembly dispersed. On Tuesday evening the public meeting of the West Riding Home Missionary Society was held in Ramsden-street Chapel, and was well attended. The claims of the society were ably urged by Dr. J. R. Campbell, of Bradford, Rev. J. Vaughan, of Rotherham, Samuel Morley, Esq., and Rev. J. H. Wilson, of London, and by the chairman, John Crossley, Esq., Mayor of Halifax. On Wednesday morning the ministers and delegates re-assembled in Highfield Chapel, and were occupied till late in the afternoon granting exhibitions to feeble churches in different parts of the Riding. The grants thus made exceed 1,200*l.* in amount. In the evening Samuel Smith, Esq., of Bradford, gave an admirable address, with illustrations, on "Congregational Psalmody," in Highfield Chapel. The place was crowded, and the lecture gave the highest satisfaction.

Correspondence.

THE STEANE AND HINTON PORTRAITS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—I have read with pleasure the letter of a correspondent in last week's *Nonconformist*, adverting to the portraits of the Revs. Dr. Steane and J. H. Hinton, M.A., which are this week to be presented to the Baptist Union. The subscription list is still open, and it will give the committee great gratification to receive the fraternal assistance of any Congregational brethren who would like to share in doing honour to men so highly esteemed by the whole Church of Christ. Contributions may be sent to me at this place.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

JAMES H. MILLARD,
Secretary of Baptist Union.

Baptist Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street, London, E.C., April 21st, 1863.

THE CHRISTIAN SPECTATOR AND ITS CRITICS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—I surely ought to make my best acknowledgment to your correspondents, "Observer," and "Free Soil," and to yourself, for devoting so much composition and space last week to the good and bad qualities of the *Christian Spectator*; the first gentleman describing that periodical as containing something that was "able, accurate, and wise"; the second denouncing its doctrine as "hasty and superficial." The first statement is the more agreeable of the two; and I beg to inform "Observer" that the papers on the "Customs of the Dissenters," which he is good enough to praise, will be republished in a cheap form by Mr. Elliot Stock, so that others besides the readers of the magazine can obtain the benefit which he thinks will accrue from these criticisms on sporadic Nonconformity.

As to the statement of "Free Soil" that the pacific doctrine of the *Christian Spectator* on the American dispute is "hasty and superficial," I have only to observe that that is a form of speech which decides nothing, except that the writer has a favourable opinion of his own judgment, and that even when used by a person of indisputable profundity and deliberation, it looks better at the end than at the beginning of a discourse. The American difficulty brings the ablest men in England to a pause, and divides the most instructed minds in the empire.

I should, however, like to make the following notes on "Free Soil's" letter:—

1. The argument in the *Christian Spectator* has been all along directed against the emancipation policy of Mr. Lincoln, which has been endorsed and abetted by

the Emancipation Society in England. The argument has been that this policy pursues an end of supposed benevolence by iniquitous and destructive means. Rather than join the English emancipationists in abetting such a policy, the *Christian Spectator* has counselled compromise and peace, believing that good, even to the slaves and to the South, and certainly to the North, will come out of such a pacification. Against these arguments we have not yet heard any reply, and the *Nonconformist* reviewer of magazines last week seemed to admit their validity.

2. In the *Christian Spectator* the question of the border has not been discussed, nor of the exact time of making peace, under the belief that both of them will be determined by the issue of the present campaign, and not by diplomacy or by English political writing. Certainly the border question has nowhere been treated as a matter of easy settlement, but only as one that might be settled, especially if the North were to receive a few more sound thrashings, according to the general course of events in the war.

3. "Free Soil" occupies a position very different from that of the English emancipation party led on by the speakers at Exeter Hall. They are heart and soul with Mr. Lincoln, and are in favour of prosecuting the war to the absolute destruction of the Confederacy, to the complete emancipation of the slaves, and the re-establishment of the military dominion of the Union from the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico. I beg you to observe that "Free Soil" limits his aspirations to a far humbler issue of the war: to preventing the extension of slavery over the vast regions to the west of the Mississippi; to "hedging in the Slave Power by Free States; to curbing the Slave Power, confining it like a wild beast to its own den, as an enemy of civilisation." There is to be, then, a "Slave Power" after all, and a "den" in which to confine it, a den of "its own." This is very different from slaying the wild beast, and confiscating his den for a Northern treasure-safe.

4. The objection of "Free Soil" to making peace this year with the South, is that the war has not yet settled a border, and that diplomacy could not do it. The North is not likely to settle a border, so long as it strives for the whole continent. If it would begin to fight for a border, a border would more probably appear in the determination of the people. But according to "Free Soil" that question must come some day—for there is to be a "den" for the wild beast, recognised by the surrounding circle of Free States, and all the difficulties which he mentions as attending a settlement of a border at present will occur then, if on a smaller scale. There will still be fugitive slaves, river-boundaries, &c., and all the black catalogue of border miseries. Will the emancipationists accept this gentleman as their expositor, in order to rebuke the *Christian Spectator*? Why he is very little better than the "hasty, superficial" person whom he has set himself to reprove!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
THE EDITOR OF THE CHRISTIAN
SPECTATOR.

MR. SOMES' BILL FOR CLOSING PUBLIC-HOUSES ON SUNDAY.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—We, the promoters of the petition in Cambridge for the above object, were very much surprised to see in the columns of your last edition a protest from some of the members of the Young Men's Christian Association, and we therefore feel bound to give some explanation and reply to that protest, if you will kindly allow us the same privilege through your columns.

We, feeling Cambridge ought to do its mite towards bringing about an end so beneficial to society generally, placed petitions for signature wherever we could, and, being members of the above association, forwarded one to its committee: they, approving of the object, had it placed in the rooms for signature. A member of the association, objecting to the petition, sent a protest to the committee, which they rejected; a second was written (the one first referred to) and taken round to several members and their signatures solicited. We were told by one of its supporters that it was placing the petition in the rooms that they protested against, and not at the petition itself. But after the publicity given to it last week we cannot help thinking it was quite the reverse; in fact, we felt it quite a private and not a public matter, but as our opponents have taken this step, we feel it our duty to reply.

1st. The petitioners think that closing public-houses on Sunday "would increase the influence of the Church, the Sunday-school, and Christian efforts generally." Surely you cannot object to Government making a law to increase good influences and promote the well-being of society. You must bear in mind that as the Government give the power to trade in that article, and hold certain restrictions over men, therefore they have a right to prohibit them trading on the Sabbath, the day which God has set apart for himself.

Now we would remind you that there are those amongst us who feel and know that Government has no right to interfere on matters of religion, much less, as you falsely imply, that we desire them to take Christian influence under their especial patronage, but we do feel and know that it is the duty of Government to remove legalised temptations to evil. We are not unmindful of our position as Nonconformists, those principles which our forefathers bought so dearly for us, and we doubt not but that we prize and love them as dearly as you do, yet we cannot see with you that in endeavouring to achieve so glorious an object, we are in any way sacrificing our principles.

2nd. The petition states that what is sold in the public-house is an article "inimical to the sacred objects of the Sabbath." We rejoice that you observe "that this statement is made concerning the article itself," but we should have rejoiced still further had you attempted to prove to the contrary. We beg to remind you that there are those amongst us who know full well that it is inimical not only to the sacred objects of the Sabbath, but also to the other six days of the week, and also that it cannot be made without violating the laws of God.

3rd. The petition avows "that all traffic in useful things is most properly forbidden, and that the interest of our common Christianity demand such legislation." While we do not believe that any one class of men, either legislators or teachers, have a right to dictate or enforce any particular mode for observing this sacred day, we do believe it to be just and right, and the duty of legislators, to prohibit as far as possible labour on the

Sabbath, and that the work of Christian men, as political governors, is on Christian principles to do those acts, and to secure those privileges for their poorer brethren, which they would in a reverse of position have others do for them. We imagine that the glaring evils connected with the public-house system are only too evident a proof that professional has taken the place of practical Christianity, otherwise a system so prolific of evil in all its blackest forms would never find its upholders and principal defenders among men calling themselves Christians, and who believe that the interests of Christianity are to be promoted by the actions of Christian men, whether that sphere be the House of Commons, the pulpit, the counting-house, or the workshop.

In conclusion, we would remind them that whilst they take the side of our opponents they are casting a stumbling-block in the way of those who hold up the example of Christian men to confirm them in their actions.

Apologising for occupying so much of your valuable space,

We are, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

F. P. ROBINSON,
A. ROGERS.

Cambridge, April 20th, 1863.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

News from New York extends to April 8th.

All the Federal expeditions intended to reach the rear of Vicksburg, by way of Sunflower River and the Yazoo Pass, have been abandoned. General Grant had placed a battery of 84-pounders beyond the levee in a position to reach Vicksburg easily, and was about to open the bombardment. A despatch from Cairo of the 4th says:—"The water still continues to pour through the cut at Lake Providence. Nearly all the town is submerged." The troops have been compelled to move their encampments further up the river. The health of the troops is good, but the "buffalo gnats" are said to be killing large numbers of the Government horses.

The canal opposite Vicksburg is abandoned, the Confederate cannon commanding two-thirds of its length. It is reported that the Confederates have taken the steamer Indianola to Alexandria, on the Red River, and repaired her sufficiently to make her serviceable. During a high wind the Confederate gunboat Vicksburg broke from her moorings, floated down the stream, and was captured by Farragut's vessel.

The Confederates were gathering in large force on the Tennessee River above Florence, and are building floats to cross the river, with a view probably to reinforce the army at Vicksburg. The Federal gunboats on the Tennessee River have been driven back by the Confederates. General Rosencranz officially reports that Morgan's guerrillas had been encountered at Snow Hill, and defeated by General Stanley. Morgan's forces escaped with their artillery.

Official despatches from Generals Burnside and Gilbert report that the latter defeated the Confederates under General Pegram, at Somerset, Kentucky, on the 30th ult., and forced them to retire across the Cumberland, leaving behind them a large number of the cattle they had seized. The Confederate loss is named at fifty killed and 400 prisoners, and that of the Federals thirty in killed, wounded, and missing. General Gilbert states that by this victory he has driven the Confederates entirely out of Central Kentucky.

The attack on Charleston was, it was thought, about to commence. It is officially announced from Washington that the Federal fleet of gunboats and iron-clads had left Port Royal for Charleston. The Northern correspondents report that a Federal regiment occupied Coles Island, nine miles from Charleston, without opposition.

The negro expedition had evacuated Jacksonville, Florida, and after burning the town returned to Port Royal to await General Hunter's command.

The President and Mrs. Lincoln had visited General Hooker, at his quarters on the Rappahannock, but the weather was so severe and the mud so deep that the grand review in honour of the visit was countermanded, and Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln returned to Washington. The draft is expected to be enforced at the end of April.

The State election of Rhode Island took place on the 1st inst., and resulted in the success of the whole Republican ticket. In Connecticut a Republican Governor and Republican State officers have been elected. Three out of the four Republican nominees for Congress have been elected, and the Legislature is also strongly Republican. The Democrats lose one member of Congress. The Governor's majority is 3,000, being a Republican loss of 6,000 since last year.

The President is still urged by a section of the Cabinet to issue letters of marque, but persistently refuses, lest he should increase the difficulties of the Republic and imperil its friendly relations with the maritime Powers of Europe.

At a meeting for the relief of the distress in Ireland, held in New York, General McClellan was loudly called for. He declared that all the energies, all the thoughts, all the means, and, if necessary, the last drop of the blood of the people, would be given to maintain the unity of the nation. At the close of his speech three cheers were given for "President" George B. McClellan.

A large Democratic meeting has also been held in New York, at which resolutions were passed denouncing the Administration—declaring the war as now conducted a failure, and demanding peace. Ferdinand Wood declared that until the conferences were opened it was impossible for anyone to say

whether under such circumstances the South would or would not listen to negotiations looking to reunion. Speeches were made declaring it to be insanity to suppose that the South ever could be conquered.

General Butler was received by the Loyal League at the Academy of Music on the 2nd. An address expressing the sentiments of his New York admirers was delivered to the General by the Mayor, Mr. Opdyke. General Butler, in his reply, advocated the extermination of the Southern "rebels," the confiscation of the estates of the planters, and their partition among the soldiers of the Union. He was particularly bitter against the English Government and aristocracy, and said that at the time of the Trent affair it was perhaps wise not to provoke England, but he thanked God that the country was now getting into a condition to remember that case. He advised retaliation for the depredations of the Alabama and the Florida, and recommended that non-intercourse with England be proclaimed, so that not an ounce of food from America should get into an Englishman's mouth until those piracies were stopped. He also advocated the prohibition of the export of gold to England.

Governor Todd, of Ohio, has been arrested by order of the Grand Jury of Fairfield, county Ohio, on a charge of kidnapping Dr. Olds, who was arbitrarily arrested and imprisoned in Fort Lafayette. The Governor was admitted to bail.

A Federal officer returned from Richmond states that he witnessed in that city a bread riot, in which 3,000 women were engaged. They broke open the Government stores and took what they wanted. The military were unable to check the riot. President Davis and others made conciliatory speeches, and order was restored.

The Virginia Legislature has passed a bill providing that speculators in food shall be punished for misdemeanour. President Davis is reported to be suffering from an abscess in the eye, by which it is feared he will lose his sight.

The reported evacuation of Richmond is now denied.

The Confederates have marched a large force to Washington, North Carolina, and it is supposed they have engaged the Federals under General Foster.

It is rumoured that General Lee is in the Shenandoah Valley.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ALABAMA.—The New York papers state that the Governor of Demerara has issued orders that if the Alabama calls there for supplies, they are not to be furnished. According to the latest advices Admiral Wilkes was at Havannah.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY BY THE CHEROKEE INDIANS.—The Cherokee National Council, the same which, two years ago, passed the ordinance of secession under the threats and blandishments of the heartless renegade, Albert S. Pike, reassembled in Feb. last, and for its first act unanimously repealed the ordinance. They then deposed from office and disqualified every man who should continue in rebellion, or be disloyal to the United States. Next a law was enacted appointing a commission to go to Washington, and negotiate with the Government for the restoration of their affairs, with authority to agree to any plan of compensated emancipation which should be accepted by the Border States. Having done this they paused, reviewed the situation, and found that it did not satisfy the Indian idea of straightforwardness and right. A bill was introduced for the immediate and unconditional abolition of slavery, and after an earnest and eloquent discussion it was carried triumphantly.

SCARCITY IN THE SOUTH.—In a letter from the Southern correspondent of the Times, and dated from Atlanta, in Georgia, 28th of February, there is evidence of the great straits in which the Confederates are for food. It is generally admitted, he says, that there must be great pressure between the time of his writing till the wheat harvest. Nevertheless, there is in the South "a progressive and ceaseless increase in their power of stiff-necked resistance"; and the Southerners are keeping a sharp look-out to make the best of the natural produce of their country:—

It is unquestionably competent to the Federals to increase the pressure of want by their possession of some of the finest grain-growing districts of the Confederacy. All the Northern moiety of Virginia, the fruitful valley of the Shenandoah, the eastern section of North Carolina, produce in ordinary times most of the grain which supplies bread to the South, or is exported through New York to Brazil and South America. Upon each of these districts the iron heel of the invader is planted. Furthermore, in that portion of Tennessee which is in the Federal grasp General Rosencranz has forbidden every kind of agriculture, and aged men and women and children (the sole denizens left in that region) who reject the oath of allegiance are driven down South at the point of the bayonet, to increase the number of mouths which the Confederacy has to feed. Another great source of supply is cut off by the suppression of the North Carolina fisheries, which ordinarily yield millions of herrings and shad, salted on the spot by large gangs of male and female negroes.

THE CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT AND THE SLAVE-TRADE.—A Washington telegram of the 31st ult. says:—"An intercepted document, addressed by Judah P. Benjamin, the Confederate Secretary of State, to the Hon. L. Q. O. Lamar, the Confederate Commissioner at St. Petersburg, has lately come into the possession of our Government. It shows the prudent and significant reserve which the Confederate authorities prescribe to themselves in refusing to enter into any engagements with foreign Powers not to revive the African slave-trade, Mr. Benjamin

says Lamar is well aware how firmly fixed in their constitution is the policy of the Confederacy against the opening of that trade; but we, he remarks, are informed that false and invidious suggestions have been made by the agents of the United States at European courts of their intention to change their constitution as soon as peace is restored, and of authorising the importation of slaves from Africa. If, therefore, Mr. Lamar should find in his intercourse with the Cabinet to which he is accredited that any such impressions are entertained, he must use every proper effort to remove them; and if any attempt is made to introduce into any treaty which he may be charged with negotiating any stipulation on the subject just mentioned, he will assume the position that the constitution of the Confederate States is an agreement made between independent States—in other words, no power is delegated to the Confederate Government over this subject. In the course of his instructions Mr. Benjamin says:—"We trust that no unnecessary discussions on this matter will be introduced into your negotiations. If, unfortunately, this reliance should prove ill-founded, you will decline continuing negotiations on your side and transfer them to us at home, where, in such an event, they could be conducted with greater facility and advantage under the direct supervision of the President."

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

The Polish Provisional Government has published the following proclamation:—

An amnesty has been announced by the Russian Government, as also a promise to maintain the existing institutions.

Poland is well aware what confidence she can place in this pretended amnesty and in the promises of the Russian Government. But, to avoid any mistake, we formally declare that we reject all these false concessions. It was not with the intention of obtaining more or less liberal institutions that we took up arms, but to get rid of the detested yoke of a foreign Government, and to reconquer our ancient and complete independence.

It is for this, and for this alone, that the nation makes great sacrifices, and does not spare its blood.

Every man who has the love of his country at heart cannot be indifferent to the blood which has been shed, to the destruction of property which has occurred, to the fact that towns have been burnt down, and that the whole country is desolated. Every honest patriot will indignantly reject the so-called favours and concessions of the Czar.

We have taken up arms. Arms alone must decide the issue of the struggle.

A telegram from Warsaw states that the text of the Imperial amnesty published officially in that city differs materially from that published by the St. Petersburg journals. According to the Warsaw edition of the manifesto, only those who have been "led into" the rebellion are to be pardoned, so that the leaders are to be left to bear the full weight of the Imperial wrath.

The Russian soldiers burn and plunder wherever they go, and the peasants (in the Kingdom of Poland) receive five roubles for every insurgent or supposed insurgent that they can make prisoner.

In order to excite the peasants of the Kingdom more and more against the "nobles" or landed proprietors, an address is being circulated in the Polish villages, of which the following is a translation:—

Peasants and Labourers.—The nobles ruined your forefathers. They took possession of their land and turned it into farms for themselves, and they look upon you only as beasts of burden destined to work for them. But seeing that you mean to defend your rights, they have made an agreement to exterminate you. They are already beginning to bring new settlers here, heretics and foreigners, whom they would establish on your land after driving you away.

Defend yourselves, and do not allow yourselves to be ruined. It has been decided to burn all the mansions of the nobles, and as for them, they must be killed, like tyrants and scoundrels as they are. Their estates will be divided among you, for they belong to you and are your lawful inheritance. And the Sovereign will then be able to live in peace, authority will be respected, and every one will be happy.

The news respecting the insurrection is not very important. Intelligence from all parts of the seat of the insurrection shows that the amnesty has produced a bad impression amongst the insurgents. The rising in Lithuania continues to be very formidable. The Governor of Grodno has reported to the Russian Government that 4,000 peasants in his district have expressed their intention to return to the United Greek Church. A serious engagement has taken place near Suwalki, in which 3,000 (?) insurgents participated. The Russians lost 200 killed, and seven guns. Lelewel's insurgent force, 300 strong, has been dispersed by the Russians, after an engagement of an hour's duration. Part of the insurgents fled to Galicia. It is now stated that neither the Grand Duke Constantine nor the Marquis Wielopolski will leave Warsaw. The following telegram has been published:—

WILNA, April 17 (Evening).—Persons of all classes are constantly leaving the district to join the insurgents. Arrests and domiciliary visits are of daily occurrence. The citadel is filled to overflowing with political prisoners. Many persons have been sentenced to death by courts-martial, but none have yet been executed, the military governor having in all cases commuted the sentences. A large number of Polish landholders have fled to this city.

The Austrian Government continues to adopt very stringent measures along the frontier of Galicia, and has made many arrests at Cracow. The number of the *Czas* containing an order from the National Government to the Poles not to pay taxes to

Russia, but to the National Government, was confiscated.

The Prussian troops on the frontier have seized several waggons laden with arms and provisions intended for the Poles, and the persons who accompanied them.

FRANCE.

The *Pays* gives the following analysis of the French note sent to St. Petersburg:—

M. Drouyn de Lhuys states that the troubles in Poland have occasioned uneasiness in Europe, as they are not the result of a temporary crisis. The periodical convulsions which occur in Poland are the symptoms of inveterate disease, leaving no doubt of the inability of the combinations attempted up to the present time to reconcile the country with the situation in which it has been placed by the treaties of 1815. The note points out that such disturbances are a subject of alarm to Europe. These conflicts excite the public mind, and might, if prolonged, disturb the relations of Governments in such a degree as to produce the most regrettable consequences. It is therefore the interest of all the Powers to see dangers incessantly reviving definitely removed. The note concludes with a hope that Russia will reflect upon these considerations, will still show herself animated by those liberal dispositions of which the Emperor Alexander has already given so many proofs, and will recognise in her wisdom the necessity of adopting measures which will place Poland in a position of lasting peace. The Duc de Montebello is requested to leave a copy of the note with Prince Gortschakoff.

The *Pays* further states that the Imperial ukase promulgating the amnesty will effect no change with regard to the notes of the Powers, as the intention of the Czar to adopt this step was known to the Powers previous to the despatch of the notes.

The *Constitutionnel* says of the Czar's manifesto:—"The amnesty is not a solution, but the hope of a solution."

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* says he thinks it is not too much to say that the Emperor is at this moment seriously revolving in his mind the possibility of a war with Russia. The popularity of the Polish cause in France makes it exceedingly difficult for him to submit to the diplomatic check which evidently awaits M. Drouyn de Lhuys. The Empress uses her influence in favour of intervention. It is rumoured that an alliance offensive and defensive has been concluded between France and Sweden.

It is said that the Emperor Napoleon has addressed an autograph letter to the Queen of Spain, couched in rather pressing terms, on behalf of the imprisoned Protestants, in whose favour diplomatic representations were also made.

A remarkable paragraph appears in the *Moniteur* to the following effect:—"The growing hostility of the United States to England is exciting uneasiness in London. The last despatches have a character of increasing irritation."

AUSTRIA.

The *Vienna Gazette* publishes the text of the protest of the Austrian Government addressed to Denmark. The same paper states that the Austrian Ambassador, in compliance with the wish of Prussia, had been instructed to forward to the Danish Government the reservation of the rights of the German Confederation in a simultaneous note with that of the Prussian Ambassador, and couched in similar terms.

PRUSSIA.

Germany rejects the sacrifices recently made by the King of Denmark for the settlement of the Schleswig-Holstein question, and finds in the proclamation announcing those sacrifices a new offence against the Diet. In the Prussian Chamber of Deputies, on Thursday, Herr von Twetten called upon the Government to protest against this proclamation, and to take a diplomatic revenge for the pretensions there set up, by declaring the engagements made in the years 1851-2 respecting the succession to the throne of Denmark null and void. He said that for the present this was all the action that could be taken, as war was impossible, on account of the internal dissensions of the country—the position being such that the House itself would oppose the employment of hostilities. (Great applause.) Herr von Bismarck said that Austria and Prussia had already protested against the Danish proclamation, and that the Prussian Government would concert with its Federal allies as to the further steps to be taken. The Minister went out of his way to tell the Deputies that "if the Government felt disposed to embark in war it would do so without the assent of the House."

It is rumoured that an alliance has been concluded between Prussia and Russia, while the *Nord* and some foreign journals speak of a projected interview between the Czar and the King of Prussia.

SWEDEN.

La France says:—

The Swedish Government is hastening the execution of the works for the reorganisation of the fleet and for maritime defences. It is said that the Government is actively engaged in fortifying Carlscrona, the most important maritime port of Sweden, and that the harbour will be rendered capable of affording shelter, not only to the Swedish fleet, but also to the squadrons of those Powers whose interest it might be to station a naval force in those waters. Their squadrons will find accommodation for repairing and provisioning. Orders have been given for the immediate iron-plating of four vessels of war and three frigates.

The *Pays* also states that Sweden is actively engaged in armaments.

RUSSIA.

Advices from St. Petersburg state that orders have been transmitted to Cronstadt to fit out a squadron to cruise in the Gulf of Finland and the Baltic, for the purpose of preventing any landing of the Poles.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* publishes an address, presented on Easter-day to the Emperor by the municipality of St. Petersburg. Similarly to the address of the nobility, the document expresses the devotion of the municipality to the Sovereign, and its desire to promote by every means in its power the integrity of the empire.

GREECE.

A new Ministry has been formed in Greece, and the National Assembly has voted an address of thanks to England for the proposed annexation of the Ionian Islands to Greece.

A Copenhagen correspondent states that one of the conditions of Prince William's acceptance of the throne of Greece is that in religious matters his heirs shall not be brought up in any other faith than that of their father. It is said, also, that the formal abdication of Otho is still insisted on.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

SHANGHAI, March 9.—(By telegraph from Suez.)—The city is quiet. The Imperialists have been again defeated at Shaouhing (?) for want of besieging materials. General Tardiff and Lieutenant Tilling were killed. Captain Gordon will succeed Captain Holland in the command of the Ward Corps.

The Admiral at Hong Kong has proceeded with the English fleet to Japan, where the outbreak of military hostilities is reported.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A bill is now before the Canadian Parliament to do away with public executions.

The Sultan of Turkey left Alexandria on Friday, on his return to Constantinople.

The courts of Italy and Portugal have conveyed to St. Petersburg their adhesion to the notes of the three Powers in favour of Poland.

Negotiations have been reopened between the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, with reference to the proposed conference on the subject of an intercolonial tariff.

"The marriage of a priest," says the *Gazette de France*, "has just taken place at Naples. It is the ex-Jesuit Perez, one of the most prominent members of the Italian Emancipation Society, that has given to the world such a scandal."

A telegram from Turin announces that the Chamber of Deputies has approved, by a majority of 120 to 11 votes, of the proposal to grant a pension to M. Farini. There is little prospect that that illustrious invalid will long require a pension for his own use. He is said to be dying.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Alfred, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, Prince Louis of Hesse, and Prince Leiningen, attended Divine service on Sunday morning in the private chapel of Windsor Castle. The Archbishop of York preached.

The Queen, accompanied by Lady Augusta Bruce and the Marchioness of Ely, and attended by Colonel Biddulph, paid a private visit to Buckingham Palace on Friday. Her Majesty returned to Windsor at two o'clock, accompanied by the Princesses Helena and Louise, who went to London the previous evening to visit the theatre, and slept at Buckingham Palace.

The Prince and Princess of Wales left Sandringham Hall on Saturday, and journeyed to Windsor. On their way they passed through Wisbeach, where great preparations had been made to receive them. The Mayor, in his scarlet dress, the mayoress, attended by twenty-four young ladies, the Corporation, the Clergy, and the Volunteers, awaited the arrival of the Royal party. The town was gaily decorated. At noon the train arrived. The Mayor advanced to the Royal carriage and handed to the Prince the address of the Corporation. The mayoress then offered to the Princess a bouquet in an enamelled holder, and the mayor presented the Prince with a copy of Walker and Cradock's "History of Wisbeach." The gifts were graciously received. From thence they travelled along the Great Eastern line to Stratford, where they turned off through Kew to Windsor.

The Prince of Wales will receive addresses of congratulation from corporations and other public bodies on Wednesday, the 29th inst., at Marlborough House.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mrs. Gladstone left town on Saturday for Windsor Castle on a visit to the Queen, and returned on Monday.

"The Queen of England," says the *Nord*, "will again this year pass some weeks in the Duchy of Coburg. Preparations are already being made for her Majesty's reception at the castle of Rosenau."

CAMPBELL v. THE "SATURDAY REVIEW."—Mr. Bovill applied on Saturday to the Court of Queen's Bench for a rule for a new trial in the case of Dr. Campbell against the publisher of the *Saturday Review*. He tried very hard to convince the court that the writer of the article in the *Saturday Review*, which had been held to be a libel on Dr. Campbell, was only a fair criticism of that gentleman's doings. Some very nice points were introduced; but the judges had no hesitation in unanimously declaring that the article was a libel, and therefore refused the rule.

PARLIAMENTARY DIVISION.

BURIALS BILL: SECOND READING.

MINORITY—AYES, 96.

Adair, H E	Grenfell, H R	Paget, C
Adam, W P	Gray, Rt Hon Sir G	Pease, H
Andover, Viscount	Gurney, S	Pigott, Sergeant
Atherton, Sir W	Hanfield, G	Pollard-Urquhart, W
Ayrton, A S	Hankey, T	Potter, E
Aytoun, R S	Henley, Lord	Powell, J J
Baines, E	Herbert, H A	Ricardo, O
Baring, T G	Hutt, Rt Hon W	Robertson, H
Berkeley, Hon H F	Ingham, R	Roebuck, J A
Berkeley, Hon C P F	Jackson, W	St. Aubyn, J
Brand, Hon. H	Jervoise, Sir J C	Scholefield, W
Bruce, H A	Kinglake, A W	Seely, C
Butler, C S	Layard, A H	Beymour, H D
Cavendish, Hon W	Langston, J H	Shafto, R D
Clifton, Sir R J	Levings, Sir R	Shelley, Sir J V
Collier, R P	Lewis, Harvey	Sheridan, H B
Cox, W	Lindsay, W S	Smith, Augustus
Cressley, Sir F	Locke, John	Smith, J A
Dodson, J G	Lysley, W J	Smollett, P B
Doulton, F	Maguire, J F	Stansfeld, J
Dunbar, Sir W	Marjoribanks, D	Sykes, Col W H
Dunne, M	Martin, P W	Taylor, P A
Ewart, W	Matheson, A	Tite, W
Ewart, J C	Merry, James	Verney, Sir H
Ewing, H E Crum-	Mills, J R	Vivian, H H
Fermoy, Lord	Morris, D	Warner, E
Fortescue, Hon F D	Morrison, W	Western, S
French, Colonel	Norris, J T	White, J
Gibson, Rt Hon T M	North, F	Williams, W
Goldsmid, F H	Ogilvy, Sir J	Wyld, J
Gower, Hon F L	Onslow, G	Tellers.
Green, J	Owen, Sir H O	Peto, Sir M
Gregson, S	Padmore, R	Douglas, Sir O

MAJORITY—NOES, 321.

Adderley, Rt Hon CB	Gore, W R O	Morgan, O
Addington, Hon W W	Gower, G W G L	Morrill, W J S
Antrobus, E	Graham, Lord W	Mowbray, Rt Hon J R
Arbuthnot, Hon Gen	Greaves, E	Murray, W
Astell, J H	Greenall, J	Newdegate, C N
Baillie, H J	Greenwood, J	Nicol, W
Barttelot, Col	Grey, Capt	Noel, Hon G J
Bathurst, A A	Grey de Wilton, Viscount	North, Col
Bathurst, F H	Griffith, B D	Northcote, Sir S H
Beach, W W B	Gurdon, B	Packe, C W
Beaumont, W B	Hamilton, Lord C	Packe, Col
Beecroft, G S	Hamilton, Viscount	Pakenham, Col
Bentley, G W P	Hanbury, R	Pakington, Rt Hon
Benson, R	Handley, J	Sir J
Beresford, Rt Hon W	Hammer, Sir J	Palk, Sir J
Bernard, T T	Hardy, G	Papillon, P O
Biddulph, Col	Hardy, J	Parker, Major W
Blackburn, P	Hartopp, E B	Patten, Col W
Bovill, W	Hay, Sir J O D	Peacocke, G M W
Bramley-Moore, J	Heathcote, Hon G H	Peel, Rt Hon Sir R
Bramston, T W	Heathcote, Hon G H	Peel, Right Hon Gen
Bridges, Sir B W	Heygate, Sir F W	Phillips, G L
Briscoe, J I	Heygate, Sir F W	Portman, Hon W H B
Brooks, R	Hodgson, R	Potts, G
Bruce, Major C	Holford, R S	Powell, F S
Bruce, Sir H H	Holmesdale, Viscount	Powell, W T R
Burghley, Lord	Hood, Sir A A	Pritchard, J
Burrell, Sir P	Horsfall, T B	Fuller, C W G
Butler - Johnstone, H A	Hotham, Lord	Repton, G W J
Buxton, C	Hovew, E	Ridley, Sir M W
Cartwright, Col	Hubbard, J G	Ridley, Hon R T
Cave, S	Humberston, P S	Russell, H
Cholmeley, Sir M J	Jermyn, Earl	Salt, T
Clay, J	Johnstone, J J H	Sclater-Booth, G
Clifford, Col	Jolliffe, Rt Hon Sir	Seiwyn, C J
Closs, M C	Jolliffe, H H	Shirley, E P
Cobbold, J C	Kekewich, S T	Smith, Sir F
Cochrane, A D R W B	Kelly, Sir F	Smith, M
Codrington, Sir W	Kennard, R W	Smith, Abel
Coke, Hon Col	King, J K	Smith, S G
Collins, T	Knight, F W	Smyth, Col
Copeland, Mr Ald	Knightley, R	Somes, J
Craufurd, E H J	Knox, Hon Major S	Spooner, R
Cubitt, G	Knox, Sir E	Stanhope, J B
Cubitt, W	Laird, J	Stewart, Sir M R S
Curzon, Viscount	Langton, W G	Stracey, Sir H
Disraeli, Rt Hon B	Lefroy, A	Sturt, H G
Du Cane, C	Lee, W	Sturt, Lieut Col N
Du Pre, C G	Legh, W J	Talbot, Hon W C
Dutton, Hon R H	Lennox, Lord G G	Tempest, Lord A V
East, Sir J B	Lennox, Lord H G	Thynne, Lord H
Edwards, Major	Liddell, Hon H G	Torrans, R
Egerton, Sir P G	Long, R P	Trefusis, Hon C H R
Egerton, Hon A F	Long, W	Trelawny, Sir J S
Egerton, E C	Lopes, Sir M	Trollope, Rt Hon Sir J
Egerton, Hon W	Lowth, Lord	Turner, C
Enfield, Viscount	Lowther, Hon Col	Vance, J
Fane, Colonel J W	Lowther, Captain	Vansittart, W
Farquhar, Sir M	Lyall, G	Vernon, H F
Farrer, J	Lygon, Hon F	Walker, J R
Fellowes, E	Macaulay, G	Walpole, Rt Hon S H
Ferrand, W	Macmillan, W	Walsh, Sir J
Filmer, Sir E	Mackie, J	Walter, J
Fitzgerald, W R S	Mainwaring, T	Watlington, J W P
Fitzwilliam, C W W	Malcolm, J	Way, A E
Foljambe, F J S	Manners, Right Hon	Welby, W E
Forster, Sir G	Lord J	Whitmore, H
Forster, W O	Martin, J	Wickham, H W
Franklyn, G W	Miller, T J	Wood, B T
Gard, R S	Mills, A	Wyndham, Hon P
Garnett, W J	Mitford, W T	Wynn, C W W
George J	Montagu, Lord R	Wynne, W W E
Gilpin, Col	Montgomery, Sir G	Yorke, Hon E T
Goddard, A L	Mordant, Sir C	Tellers.
Gore, J R O	Mordant, Sir C	Cecil, Lord R
		Hunt, G W

PAIRS.

For.	Against.	For.	Against.
Mr Beale	Mr Hornby	Sir A Buller	Sir W Miles
Sir R Bulkeley	Gen Forester	Lrd Dunkellin	Lord Newport
Mr Hardcastle	Hon H Corry	Mr Dillwyn	Capt Jervis
Mr M Milnes	Lord Galloway	Right Hon W	
Sir W Somerville		Gladstone	Ld E H Trevor
Colonel Taylor		Mr Coningham	Col B Knox
Mr Davey	Mr Kendall	Mr Lawson	Mr Knatchbull
Hon F Calthorpe		Mr R W Craw-	
Mr J Tolle-		ford	Lord E Thynne
Mr T Basley	Colonel Stuart	Mr Locke King	Sir J Ferguson
(Bedford)		Mr Whalley	Sir E Kerrison
Col Berkeley	Mr A H Baring	Mr Leatham	Lord Henniker
Mr C Gilpin	Sir W Galloway	Sir A Agnew	Hon W E Dun-
Hon F Tolle-		combe	
mache	Sir T Hesketh		

At a late sale of autographs in Paris a rag of yellow paper was sold for 500fr. It was a note written and sold by Martin Luther, and dated 1531.

A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT occurred on Saturday night at the Botallack Mine, near Plymouth, which has cost ten lives. Nine men and a boy were coming up the inclined plane in a waggon, when the chain broke, and the waggon fell with fearful velocity a depth of 1,200 feet, instantaneously killing all who were in it.

DEATH OF APSLEY PELLATT, ESQ.

We regret to have to record the somewhat sudden decease of Mr. Apsley Pellatt, one of the most conspicuous members of the Independent denomination, after a life of great activity and usefulness. Mr. Pellatt died of paralysis on Friday last at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Field, at Balham-hill, after an illness of little more than a week. During the greater part of the time he was unable to express himself, but a word or two feebly uttered on the day of his departure indicated the fulness of his faith and the calmness of his trust.

The deceased was the eldest son of Mr. Apsley Pellatt, a glass-manufacturer, and was born in 1791, being seventy-one years of age at the time of his death. The eminent firm of which Mr. Pellatt was the head, carried on business at Holland-street, Blackfriars, and Baker-street, Portman-square, and by the elegance of their designs and enterprising industry, attained the highest position in that particular branch of manufacture. The late head of the firm took great interest in the artistic improvement of glassware, and many years ago delivered a lecture on the subject before the Royal Institution. He also published a little work on "Curiosities of Glass-making and of Ancient Glass," and at last year's Exhibition was not only selected as a juror, but drew up the jurors' report for that particular class. He was besides a Fellow of the Genealogical and Historical Society, and formerly one of the Council of the Government School of Design, in which he took a very lively interest.

For many years the late Mr. Pellatt resided at the works, Holland-street. During that period he attended Fetter-lane Chapel, of which church he was for some time one of the deacons. Here he attended the ministry of Dr. Burder, and subsequently of the Rev. Caleb Morris. He soon acquired distinction as a warm and intrepid friend of civil and religious freedom. It is now nearly thirty years since he was summoned before the Ecclesiastical Court for refusal to pay a Church-rate. He resolved to beard the lion in his den, and instead of employing proctors to look up musty precedents and argue the case on its legal merit, Mr. Pellatt appeared *in propria persona*, and almost frightened the sleepy denizens of Doctors' Commons by reading an elaborate paper dealing with the subject in its moral aspects, which was of course pronounced irrelevant by the greatly-scandalised judge. Mr. Pellatt lost the suit, but we believe the kindness and admiration of friends prevented him from sustaining pecuniary loss. He was subsequently for seven years a member of the Court of Common Council, and in that capacity was mainly instrumental in procuring the admission of his Jewish colleagues to their civic freedom in taking the oath binding in their consciences. He was also a conspicuous member of the Committee of Deputies of the Three Denominations, and was chairman of that ancient body during the last seven years of his life.

Mr. Pellatt's influential position in the borough in which he was so long a resident, brought him into early prominence as a politician. When Mr. Miall contested Southwark with Sir W. Molesworth in 1846, Mr. Pellatt was one of his most zealous supporters, and at the first public meeting held on the subject, moved a resolution in Mr. Miall's favour. He subsequently presided at an influential meeting held at the Bridge-house Hotel to urge the claims of the anti-endowment candidate upon the electors. It was not many years before Mr. Pellatt occupied the same position. A numerous signed requisition from the electors of Southwark induced him to become a candidate for that important constituency at the general election in 1852 in conjunction with Sir William Molesworth. We need hardly say that Mr. Pellatt advocated the most Radical reforms in Church and State. His first election address, which now lies before us, indicates the expansiveness of his political views. Mr. Pellatt met with an opponent in Mr. Scovell, but was returned by a majority of nearly one thousand over his antagonist. For five years he remained a member of the Legislature. Though not conspicuous as a speaker, nor gifted with the qualities of a statesman, Mr. Pellatt became a very useful member, interesting himself in various commercial questions, serving on committees, and voting most assiduously in favour of all measures of reform in Church and State. He formed one of that well-known band of Nonconformist M.P.'s who, from 1852, became a distinct party in Parliament, and rescued the question of religious equality from legislative neglect. If he did not take a marked position in the House, it was from no lack of zeal and industry. At last came the great debate on the Chinese opium war early in 1857, when Lord Palmerston defied the combination formed against him, and, on his defeat by a small majority, appealed to the country. Mr. Pellatt was one of the phalanx of Liberal members who on that occasion ventured to vote against their leader. Like Messrs. Cobden, Bright, Fox, Miall, and others, he became a victim of the "Palmerston purge," as it was termed. His seat was contested by Mr. Locke, the City Pleader, who, by aid of the cry for Palmerston and some untoward circumstances industriously used against Mr. Pellatt, carried the seat by a majority of 1,146. At the general election in 1859 he was once more induced to contest the borough of Southwark, but though his friends rallied round him, and he polled as many as 2,730 votes, he did not succeed in regaining the seat. When no longer in Parliament

Mr. Pellatt did not cease to exhibit his usual interest in all matters affecting the Nonconformist body, and he continued to occupy the honourable position of Chairman of the Committee of Deputies, and to show his hearty attachment to the Liberation Society.

During the last twenty years of his active life, Mr. Pellatt resided at Staines, in Middlesex. He took a conspicuous part in the movements of the Congregational body, contributed liberally both of his time and means to chapel-extension, and was frequently called upon to lay the foundation-stones of new places of worship. Open-handed generosity was one of the most marked features of his character. He was ever ready to lend a helping hand to every good cause, whether on behalf of religion, education, or philanthropy, and his affable manner and warmth of heart gave additional value to his sympathy. It was impossible to be brought into close contact with him without feeling that you were in the presence of a Christian gentleman of great shrewdness and amiability. Few men have made a better and more conscientious use of their opportunities of usefulness, public and private, or have scattered with a more lavish hand the fortune made by a life of industry and enterprise, than Mr. Pellatt. By his death the Congregational body has lost one of its chief ornaments, the church of Christ one of its most consistent members, religious freedom a true and strenuous advocate, and the poor and distressed a sympathising friend.

Mr. Pellatt leaves behind him a widow and three daughters, one of whom is married. His only son died some twenty-four years ago.

Postscript.

Wednesday, April 22, 1863.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

OSTROWO, April 20.—The insurrectionary movement is extending round Kalisch. Yesterday evening the whole garrison were alarmed by the receipt of news that a Russian patrol of forty men had been captured by the insurgents near the town. The insurgents, numbering 5,000 men, have assembled in the neighbourhood of Kalisch, and an attack on the town is daily expected. During service in the Catholic church of the college to-day the students sang the Polish national hymn in addition to creating disturbances. The college tutors immediately resolved upon closing the lecture-rooms, and have asked by telegraph for further orders from superior quarters. The frontier near Kalisch is guarded, and nobody is permitted to cross.

ORACOW, April 21.—Lelewel has succeeded in taking up a strong position. The Russians have fortified themselves in the district of Sandomir, and thus occupy a firmer position against the insurgents under Lapaeki. The insurgents stationed at Grabowce have successfully repulsed several Russian attacks. At Rychtowo, near Sieradz, the insurgents under Urbanowicz have defeated the Russians. Czachowski has put to flight and dispersed a body of Russian lancers. At Grabowice, in the palatinate of Sandomir, the insurrection has assumed formidable proportions.

WARSAW, April 20.—The Provisional Government has issued an order to the students to pay to them their college dues in support of the national cause.

LEMBERG, April 21.—Police restrictions and searchings of houses are increasing in severity, especially in the country parts, where the peasants in some cases aid the police. All strangers coming into Galicia are closely examined and watched.

RUSSIA.

PARIS, April 21.—*La France* of this evening says:—"At a Privy Council held upon Polish affairs, on the 19th inst., at the palace of Tsarskoe Selo, near St. Petersburg, the notes of the three Powers were simultaneously presented and produced a very great sensation. The Government of the Emperor had not expected that this step would have been taken with views so completely in unison."

SWITZERLAND.

BERNE, April 21.—The Austrian Government has acquainted the Federal Council that adherents of Mazzini in Switzerland are plotting an attack upon the Southern portion of the Tyrol.

It is said that the King of Prussia continues in very bad health, and that his nervous system is more and more shattered.

The Poles in Paris have presented to Prince Napoleon an address expressive of their gratitude for the sympathy he has manifested with the cause of Poland.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords only sat a few minutes last night. The business was of very little importance.

In the House of Commons, Mr. WHALLEY gave notice for this day month of a motion to discontinue the grant to Maynooth. (Oh, oh.)

Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that when the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the renewal of the income-tax he would move that the tax should be lower on precarious than on permanent incomes.

Mr. DILLWYN postponed the motion of which he had given notice on the Irish Established Church.

Sir L. PALK gave notice that in committee on the Prison Ministers Bill, he would move to insert in

clause 3, line 11, after the word "fit," "with the consent of the boards of guardians of the poor within the county where such gaol is situated."

Lord PALMERSTON, replying to Mr. Denman, said the Government had no precise information as to the meaning and scope of the amnesty to the Poles proclaimed by Russia. He said, however, that it ought to be of the most comprehensive kind, for that Russia owed a large arrear of mercy and indulgence to the Poles.

Mr. ROEBUCK, giving Lord Palmerston the option of answering the question now or taking it as a notice for Thursday, asked his lordship what line of conduct the Government intended to pursue in respect of the proceedings of Admiral Wilkes. Lord PALMERSTON preferred to take the question as a notice of one to be answered on Thursday. (Laughter.)

Mr. D. GRIFFITH wished to know if Lord Palmerston thought it respectful to the House of Commons that the new War Secretary should be in the House of Lords, where there were already the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. Lord PALMERSTON admitted that it would be better if the Chief Secretaries of State were differently distributed; but he added that in the recent appointment he had done that which he believed would be best for the public interest.

Mr. A. SMITH moved for a select committee to inquire into the Office of Woods and Forests and the Office of Works and Public Buildings, and the operation of the act by which these were constituted different departments. Mr. F. PERL opposed the motion, on the ground that inquiry was unnecessary. After a few words from Mr. CAIRD, the motion was negatived without a division.

Sir G. GREY moved for leave to bring in a bill to amalgamate the City and Metropolitan police-forces. He said there had been perfect unanimity in the recommendation of commissioners and committees which had considered this subject. They all had said the two forces ought to be amalgamated. This measure was not intended as a punishment to the City for what he called the want of management shown by its authorities on the 7th of March, but was simply a carrying out of the recommendations of previous commissions. Mr. Crawford did not intend to oppose the introduction of the bill, but on the motion for the second reading he should move its rejection. Alderman Sidney, the Lord Mayor, Mr. Norris, Sir G. Bowyer, Mr. Hibbert, Sir H. Stracey, and Sir H. Bruce, opposed the bill. It was supported by Lord A. Paget, Mr. Ayrton, Mr. Sergeant Pigott, and Sir J. Shelley. After a brief reply from Sir G. Grey, leave was given to introduce the bill, and after transacting some other business the House adjourned.

THE CITY POLICE.—A meeting of the masters and wardens of the various livery companies of the City of London was held at the Mansion House yesterday, to protest against the Government bill for amalgamating the Metropolitan and City police. The Lord Mayor presided. The meeting was most numerously attended, and was completely unanimous in its resolutions to oppose the measure introduced by Sir George Grey.

THE POLLING AT THETFORD terminated yesterday in the return of Lord Frederick Fitzroy. The numbers at the close of the poll were—for Lord Fitzroy, 93; for Mr. Harvey, 81.

THE BURIAL SERVICE.—On the 25th of next month Lord Ebury will move an humble address to her Majesty, praying for the appointment of a commission to "consider what steps should be taken to obviate the evils complained of as arising from the present compulsory and indiscriminate use of the Burial Service of the Church of England."

MARK LANE.—THIS DAY.

A very small supply of home-grown wheat was received fresh up to this morning's market. The demand for all qualities, however, was in a sluggish state, yet no quotable change took place in prices. Their tendency, however, was decidedly in favour of buyers. The show of samples of foreign wheat on the stands was large. Sales progressed slowly, both in red and white qualities, and in some instances, the quotations ruled the turn easier.

QUEENSLAND MISREPRESENTED.—An emigrant writing to his brother, a correspondent of ours, by the Australian mail, arriving last week, by no means endorses the published accounts respecting the colony of Queensland. The writer, who has travelled in Canada, the United States, New South Wales, Tasmania, and Victoria, says that "of all the countries he has visited this is certainly the worst." "Queensland, I expect, is puffed up at home; but my advice to all is, do not believe all you hear about it. J— ought to be flogged at the cart's tail for deluding poor creatures here. Emigrants are arriving here every month; some who came four months ago have not yet obtained employment. Money is scarce, and as to friends, every man for himself." Referring to the products of the colony, the writer says:—"Pine-apples grow in the garden as common as cabbages, and are being sold in my shop at from 1d. to 3d. each; peaches, 1d. per dozen; bread, 4½d. the 2 lb. loaf; beef and mutton, 3d. to 4d. per lb." The climate of the colony is thus described:—"I cannot say I dislike the climate, for it is nice and hot, not warm; fancy five months dry and hot weather, and now we have had three weeks' rain. The Brisbane river has risen twelve feet in as many hours, and many of the folks are flooded out." With so unfavourable an impression of the colony, it is not surprising to learn that the writer of the letter contemplates leaving it for "the new country found by Burke and others at the Gulf of Carpentaria."

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- “M. B.”—Respectfully declined.
 “A Protestant Dissenter.”—Next week if possible.
 “W. G. Ward.”—It is against our rule to allow theological discussion in our columns.
 “T. Wyles.”—We have no space for his communication.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1863.

SUMMARY.

AN uneasy feeling pervades the principal continental money-markets, including our own, owing to fears of complications arising out of the Polish insurrection; and all Europe is listening for the utterance of the Imperial oracle at Paris. At present, indications may be said to point both ways. The tone of the semi-official press implies that the Emperor Napoleon holds the Russian amnesty very cheap. At most it conveys but “the hope of a solution.” While some of the papers advert with significant approbation to the warlike preparations of Sweden, others are allowed to stimulate public feeling against the oppressor of Poland. The *Pays*, reflecting the views of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, says that the Polish question is not an exclusively French question, and declares that “the union of the great powers amply suffices to produce an honourable solution without it being necessary for France to throw herself, alone, into an adventurous course.” On the other hand, the French note recommended to the Czar measures “which will place Poland in a position of lasting peace”—on this among other grounds, that the continuance of the conflict in Poland “might disturb the relations of Governments in such degree as to produce the most regrettable consequences.” The air is filled with disquieting rumours in Berlin as well as in Paris, but there is nothing authentic to imply that the Emperor is ready to incur the tremendous responsibility of drawing the sword against Russia and Prussia on behalf of Poland.

The promulgation of the Russian amnesty has given a new character to the conflict in Poland. The National Committee at Warsaw, in rejecting with disdain, now and henceforth, the “mercy and pardon” of the Czar, explicitly avow that they have no hope of liberal institutions under a Muscovite Government, and “have no alternative but to throw off the hated yoke, and secure our perfect independence of Russia. The nation sheds its blood in order to restore itself to existence.” The proposal to restore the ancient Kingdom of Poland—that is, to wrest from the Czar several provinces that have for a generation past been annexed to the Empire, seems to have arrested Russian sympathy with the Polish cause, and increased the gravity of the struggle. The conflict seems to languish, in furtherance, it is said, of the procrastinating policy of the Polish leaders, who are waiting anxiously for signs from Western Europe, but meantime Russia is concentrating all her forces, inciting the peasants of Poland to murder and pillage, and allowing her soldiery to plunder and destroy at their pleasure. The wonderful forbearance of the Poles in their conduct of the insurrection is in striking contrast with the savage ferocity of their foes.

Another cause of anxiety at the present moment is the strained state of our relations with the Washington Government. On both sides the Atlantic the bitterness of feeling is becoming more intense, and fresh fuel is being weekly added to the flame. If our Government were to blame for allowing the Alabama to escape, their

forbearance has been tried to the utmost by the entirely unwarrantable interference of the Federal cruisers with British ships, and the offensive proceedings of Admiral Wilkes. That international law has been violated in these cases is shown by the withdrawal, on Earl Russell's remonstrance, of some recent instructions to the Northern cruisers; and now it comes out that Mr. Adams has been granting special “passes” to vessels carrying arms and ammunition to Matamoros for the Mexicans in their conflict with France. The Southern organs here are naturally making the most of these discreditable incidents, and General Butler's abusive tongue effectually aids them. Remembering the state of feeling in the House of Commons, as shown in the Alabama debate, there is abundant cause for regret at the accumulation of these elements of mischief.

There is no special war news from America, beyond the failure of the various expeditions against Vicksburg, and the repulse of the Confederates in their foray into Kentucky. The elections of Rhode Island and Connecticut have gone with the Republican party, who can now reckon on a working majority in the next Congress. There have been rather serious bread riots at Richmond, and the pressure must be great for the adoption by the Virginia Legislature of a bill making speculation in food a misdemeanour.

We have adverted in separate articles to the principal parliamentary topics of the week. Last night the Home Secretary introduced his promised measure for the amalgamation of the City with the Metropolitan police force, on which occasion the representatives of the London Corporation vigorously denounced the proposal. The debate was, however, only preliminary to a struggle on the second reading, when Mr. Crawford will move the rejection of the bill, and Sir G. Grey will be squeezed by a very powerful vested interest.

It is stated that the office of Secretary for War vacant by the death of Sir G. C. Lewis will be filled by Earl De Grey, who, for four years, has ably discharged the duties of Under-Secretary for that department. He is to be succeeded by the Marquis of Hartington, who will represent the War Office in the House of Commons. Earl De Grey's fitness for the responsible post to which he has been promoted is universally acknowledged, but there is great inconvenience, to say nothing more, in the absence of three principal Secretaries of State from the popular branch of the Legislature. It is confidently stated that the post of Junior Lord of the Admiralty, vacant by the transfer of the Marquis of Hartington, has been offered to, and is likely to be accepted by, Mr. Stansfeld. That would indeed be a serious loss to the Independent Liberals, who are in no position to lose the able advocacy of the member for Halifax.

THE BUDGET.

APRIL usually witnesses the ascension of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Parliamentary skies. For several years past it has been characterised by the shining forth of the star Gladstone. The brilliancy of the right hon. gentleman's financial projects is all the more conspicuous when set off by surrounding darkness—but, under such conditions, it is the more liable to transient obscurations from the driving clouds of opposition. Almost every Budget of Mr. Gladstone's has been memorable on account of some distinctive feature. His first appearance gave us the Succession-Duties Budget. Subsequently we have had the French Treaty Budget and the Paper-Duties Budget. Last year there was nothing specially characteristic of financial genius. This year the Chancellor again takes the public by surprise, and offers a scheme of taxation which, while full of enterprise, satisfies at once both the judgment and the taste of the tax-paying community. It has redeemed the Session of 1863 from utter barrenness.

The case which Mr. Gladstone had to deal with may be thus summarised. Last year he estimated the national income from all sources at the sum of 70,790,000*l.*—but in consequence of having to remit a considerable drawback on hops, his actual receipts fell short of that amount by 153,000*l.* On the other hand, provision was made for spending 70,040,000*l.*, but the total really expended was 69,301,000*l.*, making a difference on the right side of the account of 1,310,000*l.* He expected to receive during the ensuing year, at least on the hypothesis of the existing sources of revenue remaining as they now are, 71,490,000*l.*—and the total estimate of expenditure he took at 67,749,000*l.* This would leave a difference in his favour of 3,741,000*l.* But to this amount it was his intention to propose certain additions in the shape of new taxes. The surplus thus accruing he will dispose of, with a reserve of 531,000*l.* which he resolutely

holds in hand to meet unforeseen contingencies, by the following remissions. He propitiates the mercantile interest by sacrificing his penny stamp on small parcels imported inwards, and on bills of lading outwards, thus granting immunity from a vexatious interference with the course of trade, at the small cost of 161,000*l.* a year. In the next place he deals generously with the incomes, subject to the income-tax, under 200*l.* a year. The tax, whatever may be its per-centage, begins to take effect upon the incomes which amount to 100*l.* a year, and it operates, according to the existing arrangement, very severely upon all incomes ranging from 100*l.* to 200*l.* a year. Mr. Gladstone proposes to retain the point at which the tax shall come into force as it now stands, but where the income falls within the two sums just named, he will allow a reduction of 60*l.* from the taxable amount—so that a man who has an income of 190*l.* a year, will pay income-tax upon 130*l.* of it only. The great middle class come in for their share of the benefit by a reduction of the income-tax from ninepence to sevenpence in the pound, and he gives the working classes the boon of a diminution of the tea-duty from 1*s.* 5*d.* to 1*s.* per pound. The remission of taxation in the present financial year will amount to 3,340,000*l.*—but when the scheme takes full effect, it will reach the total of 4,601,000*l.*

Such is a rough outline of the Budget for 1863-64. That it is a dashing project will be conceded when it is remembered that it permanently relieves the British public from taxation to an extent little short of 5,000,000*l.* a year. But this, although the most conspicuous merit of the project, is far from being the only one. It is seldom indeed that new taxes commend themselves to the public sense of fairness. Mr. Gladstone does not propose to raise any large additional sum by his additions to the list of taxable objects. He might, had he so chosen, have confined his present Budget to remissions—he probably would have done so had money been his sole object. But it is evident that he is anxious to give symmetry to the plan on which revenue is raised in this country—and wherever he can lay his finger on an inequality, he is eager to remove it if possible. Thus, in his present Budget, he has raised the import duty on chicory to the same amount as that put upon coffee, and the excise duty upon that grown in this country to a trifle below it—the effect of which will be that the temptation to mix chicory with coffee will cease henceforth, and that the adulteration of the latter article will be governed wholly by the choice of the public. Then, again, he extends the wine-license system to clubs, that the eating-houses of the “gentlemen of England” may not escape the fiscal exactions put upon those of the less affluent classes. He commutes the 5 per cent. paid by railways on all their traffic with the exception of parliamentary and excursion trains, for 3½ per cent. on their whole traffic without any exemption; and thus withdraws an artificial stimulus to particular schemes of railway enterprise. But, not to press unfairly upon the proprietors of iron roads, he taxes carriers' carts and so equalises the burden between all who draw their profit from that line of business. He thinks the charity of the dead as fairly liable to be mulcted for the public benefit as the incomes out of which the living dispense their alms, and he therefore, besides removing the exemption from legacy duties at present enjoyed by charities in Ireland, makes English charities, so far as their revenue is derived from endowments, subject to the income-tax.

As to the mode in which the Chancellor has distributed his surplus there is even less room for serious difference of opinion. The change of method in assessing incomes between 100*l.* and 200*l.* a-year to the income-tax is an admirable expedient for relieving the pressure of that burden in the case of those who feel it most disproportionately, and it is the more welcome, because, although strongly recommended by justice, it was not anticipated. That the income-tax has got down to its normal peace level is matter for congratulation to all who pay that impost. The only provision of the Budget open to controversy is that which relates to tea. Some would have preferred that the remission should have been first granted to sugar—some that it should have been equally divided between sugar and tea. Mr. Gladstone's decision we believe to have been a wise one for the speedy recovery of the revenue through increased consumption, and for the great class of consumers the most advantageous one he could have adopted. Small remissions go into the pockets of traders—large remissions into the pockets of the purchasers. Sugar will, doubtless, come next, when, we hope, the reduction of the duty will be large enough to tell appreciably on the retail price of the article. And, as the *Spectator* has shrewdly remarked, “The old women who find they can afford another cup of tea, will scarcely deny themselves the extra lump of sugar; while the extra lump

of sugar would scarcely tempt them into a fresh brew of tea."

Taken altogether, this is one of Mr. Gladstone's most artistic, most popular, and most judicious Budgets. The speech with which he introduced it was as full of instruction charmingly conveyed, as the scheme which it recommended was solid and beneficial. His presence in the Ministry is one of the elements which redeem it from contempt. He is "the right man in the right place." We can forgive him much in which we widely differ from him, for the sake of the splendid service he renders in that wherein we concur with him. The Session, after all, will be memorable in the annals of national finance. Whatever changes may be in prospect, we shall sorely regret any party triumph which would eject Mr. Gladstone from the post which he so greatly adorns. Under his guidance, we yet hope to see the taxation of the country so adjusted as to raise all that the exigencies of the services can require, with a *minimum* amount of pressure and annoyance upon all who contribute to it.

PRISON MINISTERS BILL.

THIS Bill, brought into Parliament by the Home Secretary, Sir George Grey, was read a second time on Monday night, after a somewhat stormy debate, and a division which gave it the narrow majority of only thirty votes—the numbers being, Ayes, 152, Noes, 122. The object of the measure is to give the visiting justices in England power, should they see fit to exercise it, to appoint chaplains to gaols other than ministers of the Church of England, where the number of prisoners dissenting from the Established Church is such as to require that their spiritual wants should be attended to by the regular visitation of a Roman Catholic priest or a minister of any other denomination; to exonerate the attendance of the chaplain of the Establishment from the spiritual oversight of those prisoners in whose behalf any such appointment shall have been made; and to pay these denominational chaplains, Roman Catholic or Protestant, in proportion to the number of prisoners upon whom they are called to attend. As, to the credit of Protestant Dissenters, the number of persons connected with their bodies who bring themselves under legal chastisement is an extremely small per centage on the whole number of persons committed upon some charge of crime, the Bill is avowedly prepared for the benefit of Roman Catholics, and, hence, has excited unusual opposition.

We may view the measure in two lights—first, as it affects that principle of voluntary ministrations in religion, to which we give unfeigned and loyal allegiance; and, secondly, as it expresses that principle of equal justice which the Legislature is under moral obligation to extend to all classes irrespectively of their religious profession.

There can be no question whatever that the religious ministrations which are prompted solely by compassionate interest in the spiritual welfare of those to whom they are tendered, are in all cases to be preferred to those which result from official appointment and remuneration. Were it feasible in the present day to make arrangements whereby the various churches in this kingdom would undertake to superintend the religious visitation, instruction, and consolation of any of their members, or of persons connected with their organisations, who might unhappily be confined in gaol in any part of the realm, and would do so as a systematic part of their duty, such arrangements would be most in harmony with the teachings of the New Testament. But it is, we respectfully submit, a mistake to confound the relation of the State to the religion of its subjects in general with that which it sustains towards those of them to whom it stands, *ex necessitate, in loco parentis*. Men shut up in prison, for whatever cause, cease to be free agents, and consequently pass out of the condition in which it would be their duty to contribute towards providing themselves with means of religious instruction. The civil power which has deprived them of their personal freedom is, in our opinion, bound, by the best arrangement they can effect, to take care that the souls of those whom they hold in custody shall not remain cut off from all the means of grace by the fact of their imprisonment, and if money must be expended to compass this end, the civil power is justified in expending it. The conditions of the case are altogether exceptional. The intervention of the State, so far from being prohibited by grave moral laws, is rather suggested by considerations of justice and mercy. Where men are their own masters let the magistrate leave it to them to fulfil their religious obligations—but where they cease to be such, and pass into the custody of the civil power, it would seem but natural that the same authority which provides for them food,

clothing, and shelter, should also secure some attention to their spiritual need. We have always felt this. We have never concealed our conviction that there are exceptional conditions, of which this is one, in which the law of voluntarism ceases to be authoritative. The State, not in virtue of any general duty which it owes to its subjects, but in consequence of the special relation in which it stands towards those whom, for public reasons, it deprives of personal liberty, is, in some cases bound, and in all justified, in making due provision for the religious instruction of prisoners.

We imagine this position must have been generally acquiesced in by those who object to State interference with religion. Wherever there have been prisons in the kingdom—in England, in Wales, in Ireland, and in Scotland,—there have also been chaplains appointed by public authority and supported by public money, to attend to the spiritual interests of the unhappy people who may have been confined in them. We never remember, even when controversy has run highest, any objection having been taken to the religious action of the civil magistrate to this extent, and for this particular purpose. We do not believe that voluntaries in any part of the kingdom have ever complained of this as an infringement on the principle they accept and honour, have ever petitioned against it as a grievance, or have ever classed it among the illustrations of the evils springing out of the Union between Church and State.

But if prison chaplaincies are, under any circumstances, compatible with the integrity of what we call Christian willinghood, we feel most strongly that they do not cease to be justifiable merely because the body to which they may chance to be attached holds religious tenets to which we strongly object. To oppose the present Bill on theological grounds seems to us to be unreasonable and unfair. We are constantly insisting that the State should be rigidly impartial as between the different ecclesiastical communities into which the population is divided, and the more we dislike Popery, the more careful we should be not to inflict upon it an injustice. Not objecting to Sir G. Grey's Bill on the ground of our views of the proper relation of the State to the Church, we feel it impossible to object to it for mere sectarian reasons, without exposing ourselves to the charge of insincerity in our professed desire of religious equality.

WORKMEN'S DWELLINGS IN THE METROPOLIS.

THE question of improved dwellings for the poorer classes of London has become one of pressing importance—the most urgent social reform of the day. It is estimated that the working classes and poor of the metropolis number a million and a half, and that barely one-third of one per cent. of the whole are provided with decent abodes. All the accommodation supplied by means of public and private enterprise, in the shape of model lodging-houses and new erections, is not a tithe of that which is taken away by the opening up of new streets, and especially by the demolition of poor men's dwellings to make way for railways in the heart of the metropolis. Not only the poor, but the industrious artisans of this great city are driven more and more into a few already over-crowded localities, where, as has been remarked, they "live and die, with little more decency than colonies of rats in an old barn." In one parish it is stated the incumbent found himself deprived of nearly all his parishioners through the sweeping railway devastations that were being carried on. Whole streets had been entirely obliterated, and Dr. Lankester states that, as the result of his experience during his coronership, the mischief resulting from the crowded and unhealthy state of the dwellings of the labouring classes in London has been most distressing.

It is impossible that this gigantic evil can be allowed to continue longer without serious detriment to the physical stamina and moral condition of our working men, and danger to the rest of the community. The neglect of duty sooner or later entails retribution. All the medical officers of health in London notice the increase of fever, which last year assumed an epidemic form. While in 1860 the deaths from fever did not exceed 1,392, they had risen in 1862 to 3,635, of which no less than 1,827 were of "the true maculated typhus"—a fever poison which according to medical authorities is generated and propagated in badly-ventilated dwellings by overcrowding of human beings. The fact that almost all the cases of typhus last year were brought from the most crowded districts of the metropolis,—such as St. George's-in-the-East, Lambeth, City of London, and Deptford, seems to indicate how closely the increase of deadly disease is connected with the huddling together of human beings in

filthy and unwholesome dens. And it is only reasonable to suppose that the generation of this fever poison in the lower strata of society is connected with the increased unhealthiness of the classes above them.

It is, indeed, most sad and discouraging that a large portion of our population should be thus yearly sacrificed, and the health of a still larger portion slowly but surely undermined, while we are boasting on all hands of the increased wealth of the metropolis. Still more grievous is it to reflect that a portion only of the immense sums liberally contributed year by year for erecting and sustaining hospitals would go far to check at least the increase of the evil, if employed to improve the dwellings of the poor. Looking at the multitude of schemes brought out month by month, London may be said to overflow with capital. New and magnificent warehouses, clubs, theatres, hotels, villas, and churches are rising up on every hand. The only direction in which capital is not employed is in the construction of decent homes for our hard-working population; and after a quarter of a century's *dilettanti* experiments, the question whether such speculations would pay seems scarcely decided.

Many years ago the late Prince Consort, who took a deep interest in this subject, said, with his usual good sense:—"Unless we can get seven or eight per cent., we shall not succeed in inducing builders to invest their capital in such houses"; and it is clear that unless the matter can be taken up on strictly commercial grounds, small progress can be made in securing decent abodes for working men. Model lodging-houses have not, certainly, been made to pay in that ratio, owing, probably, to their costly architectural pretensions. The nearest approach to a solution of the problem is the meritorious speculation of Mr. Alderman Waterlow in Finsbury. That gentleman has lately erected the first of a block of houses for twenty families, called "Langbourn-buildings," which, at a rent within reach of artisans, are adapted to yield eight or nine per cent. profit. If, following the fashion that obtains in the "back slums," each room of these new houses were let separately, the cost to the occupant would be less than 2s. 6d. per week on the average, which is the minimum price paid for the worst accommodation in the lowest neighbourhoods. This experiment shows that building houses for the poor is not, after all, a bad commercial speculation, while, in connection with every block erected by Mr. Waterlow, are provided twenty washhouses, fitted with coppers, and sinks, coal-cellars, closets, &c., for the use of the tenants.

But, as Lord Shaftesbury has frequently pointed out, there is little hope of rooting out, to any great extent, the dens of pollution that abound in the metropolis without purchasing dilapidated houses, renovating them and adapting them to the wants of the population. You may take down the old rookeries, but what is to become of their hapless denizens? On this point a correspondent of the *Times* makes a suggestion, which seems both simple and feasible. He proposes "that, as soon as the Peabody trustees, or whoever the charitable persons may be, have completed their first block of buildings in the new style, then let an essential qualification for their new tenants be the fact of having lived elsewhere in the immediate neighbourhood, at the same rent, with less accommodation. Such tenants would be easily secured, and thus, having once routed out one of the old dens by transporting the inhabitants to the new buildings, then let the reformers buy up the ground on which their old premises stood, no matter what the price may be, for if the property is valuable, you must pay accordingly, rebuild thereon, and furnish their new houses as before from the lower strata, and so rebuilding and transporting they might proceed till the regeneration was complete. By such means, having once got the brush into these Augean stables, there would be some chance of their being swept out thoroughly at last; but without such sanitary compulsion very little, I feel confident, can ever be done towards ameliorating the homes of the lower London poor." It is, at all events, satisfactory to see that the subject is obtaining the attention of practical men, and that it is being ventilated in the columns of the leading journal. And if the trustees of the Peabody gift can lead the way to a reconstruction of the dwellings of the working classes in the metropolis they will have unquestionably initiated the most important social reform of the age.

CARE.

WE use the word "care" sometimes in the sense of caution—as, for instance, when we say, "Take care of the dog!" We oftener employ it to denote that state of mind which results from the anticipation of difficulties and troubles—and this is the sense in

which, shaped as an adjective, it is used in the apostle's exhortation, "Be careful for nothing." It is care in its last signification to which the following observations have reference.

Why have we been so constituted as that care should find a temporary lodging in every breast, a permanent home in some? Why is there in our nature a tendency, more or less powerful according to constitutional temperament, to stray into the future in search of burdens, seeing that those which we have to bear day by day are usually quite enough for us? Might we not have been made in this respect like the animals which, so far as we can penetrate the secret of their existence, are not prone, as we are, to forestal their sufferings? Why cannot we go through life with the same blessed freedom from care as that which characterises the period of childhood? These are large questions, or foolish ones, according to the spirit in which, and the purpose for which, they are put. Care is, in fact, the misuse of one of the grandest attributes of our being—namely, the power to project our life into the far future. We are susceptible of care, because we are capable of faith. As the latter is the substance or realisation of things hoped for, so the former is, of things apprehended with repugnance or fear. The last is, if we may so phrase it, the dark side of the first. That perpetual and eager stretching out of our thoughts and desires towards that which is to be, and which we see not yet—that wistful gaze with which, overlooking all that falls within the horizon of visible things, we peer into the illimitable expanse of the unknown—that interest stirred in our hearts by the possibilities to come, deeper and more abiding than any excited by present actualities—are God's revelation in us that this is not our final state—that our life on earth is not the be-all and the end-all of the nature with which we are endowed—that it is preliminary and preparatory to something beyond its own boundaries—and that the perfect development of our being is reserved for some epoch lying far, far away, in the impenetrable future. The proper disposition of mind with which to connect ourselves with the unseen and the unknown towards which our aspirations go out with spontaneous constancy is trust in the trustworthiness which comprehends and governs the whole dispensation of which this life is but the initiatory part. Care is the condition of mind which grows out of the absence or non-exercise of that trust. It is the self-torturing misapplication of that endowment of our being which, rightly applied, was designed to lay in us the foundations of noble character and enduring happiness.

It is far harder to endure care than affliction. We may always find alleviations of present and actual distress. We have good warrant, and, oftentimes, strong disposition, to avail ourselves of a strength other than our own, when the burden of a sorrow has been laid upon us by a hand that we could not resist. The grief of to-day is seldom dissociated from hope of the morrow. But care is trouble gathered by our own apprehensions from forbidden ground. As suicide is a self-willed and unlawful extinction of our own life, so care is a prohibited and self-chosen assumption of evils which have not yet been indicated as our predestined lot. The very condition of mind which ripens into care precludes the soothing and remedial application to it of hope. It has nothing solid on which to lean. It is a spectre which, having been evoked by the mind itself, cannot be manfully faced by it. He who sends his thoughts into the future to gather up the sticks of which the bundle of care is made up, has already disqualified himself for discerning the mitigations which would make it tolerable. Nothing exhausts the spirits so surely as care—nothing eats so deeply into the heart. It is the most demoralising of our emotions. It is at once both the product and the food of selfishness. It kills all the tenderer and more generous sympathies of our nature. It subjects the affections to a hardening process—ossifies, in fact, all that should be soft and flexible. Cares, unlike afflictions, never subdue the will. They come out of distrust, and hence they cannot call out the powers of faith. Men bowed down with cares are to be commiserated far more deeply than men overwhelmed by actual troubles, for their misery being self-created, admits of being lightened by nothing which is external.

It is worth noticing that no evil tendency of the mind profits so little by experience as care. We are perpetually realising its utter uselessness, and yet we have no sooner proved it in one instance than we make the experiment in fresh ones. Nine times out of ten the things that we distress ourselves about beforehand never occur—and when they do, they generally occur in such a different shape to that which they took in our excited apprehensions, as to exhibit our premature suffering as ridiculously gratuitous.

The phantom which, seen in the mist, seemed to our terrified imagination a crouching beast of prey, ready to spring upon us and tear us to pieces, turns out when we come up to it nothing more frightful than a silly calf—but we have no sooner passed it than we look out for some other delusion. If our care could but alter the event, something might be said for it—but it no more influences the course of our affairs than, as one of the Puritan divines puts it, the swaying of the body this side or that governs the motion of the bowl after it has left the hand of the player. We all know this well enough. Our lives have been crowded with exemplifications of the fact. But our knowledge does nothing to correct the propensity. We go on all the same, brewing troubles for ourselves just as if they were pleasant drink, or as if they possessed some patent medicinal virtue. We joke each other with the saying that "care killed the cat"—by which we mean that its deleterious influence is strong enough to destroy nine lives—but for all that we go in quest of care with as much perseverance and ingenuity as if it were the philosopher's stone.

Much of this seeming perversity, however, is due to bodily causes. Physic rather than advice is the proper remedial agent to be administered to those who are oppressed with cares. The liver has much to answer for in these cases. Morrison, the hygeist, who gave pills by the dozen, the score, or the spoonful, used to advertise as one of the good effects of his medicine that it tended to make men religious. The boast was laughable enough—but, undoubtedly, that physical agent, be it what it may, which restores to health the hepatic functions, greatly assists the development of the moral powers in man. At any rate, a proneness to look out for and to harbour care is mightily intensified by a disordered body. Who has not felt this? Who has not in certain states of fatigue and lassitude been borne down to the very earth by cares which, as the body recovered tone and the spirits elasticity, faded away of themselves, as ghosts are said to do at the dawn of day? The weight of our cares is as often as not the index of our physical vigour—and the future becomes gloomy or cheerful in accordance with the fall and rise of healthy animal life.

But the disturbance of our bodily functions is not by any means the only cause of the cares which haunt us. Self-will, also, especially when habitually indulged, attracts them by troops. We determine to make our own destiny—to create the little world of which we are to be the presiding spirit. We cannot accept the sphere allotted to us—we must shape one for ourselves. We set our hearts upon realising some selfish ideal. We lay out our plans with a view to it. We sacrifice to it no little present enjoyment. And we find ourselves, in course of time, incompetent for the management of our wayward enterprise. It becomes plain to us that we do not possess the secret of ordering even our own future, much less that of others which we are fain to make subordinate to it. We do not acquiesce, however, in our own deficiency of power, although we are conscious of it. Like the gambler who has staked his all upon a throw of the dice, we know that we subject our greatest interests to vicissitudes that we cannot command. We discount our failures in present apprehensions. The gods we have set up for worship exact from us a wearisome and cruel service. Our idolatry carries in the heart of it its own punishment. We scourge ourselves till the flesh quivers, but we do not gain the satisfaction that we seek.

The cure for care, so far at least as it springs from moral sources, is a total abandonment of self-trust, and an implicit and unreserved trust in external power and goodness absolute and unchanging. We must return to childhood, and "commit ourselves in well-doing to a faithful Creator" and Father. When once we accept for ourselves as acemliet and best the will of Him from whom our being is derived, the future ceases to be clouded, and the present is unbroken peace. Our natures crave government. We can no more be our own masters and prosper, than the child can leave the parental roof, and better his condition by escaping from control into "the wide, wide world." Care is only to be got rid of by going home. It is in self-renunciation that we find independence. We get all we want by paying all we owe. Life must be lost before it is gained. When self has surrendered itself at discretion, care, which is but the forecast shadow of self-will, disappears with it, and the manhood within us enters upon a blessed rest.

Colombo has been enlivened by a grand Cingalese wedding. The bridegroom is reported to be very wealthy—worth 300,000*l.*—and the bride had about 20,000*l.* of her own. Seven thousand sovereigns were laid out on a side table, the gift of the bride's father. All this wealth has been made by coffee.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

GREECE.

On Thursday the Earl of MALMESBURY inquired what was the present state of the negotiations respecting the throne of Greece, and the cession of the Ionian Islands and the fortresses of Corfu to that country. The noble Earl, at some length, commented on the conduct of our Foreign Minister with respect to the nomination of Prince William of Denmark to the throne of Greece.

Lord RUSSELL vindicated the conduct of the Greek people since the revolution from the attacks of Lord Malmesbury. He entered in detail into the negotiations which had taken place between the three Powers with regard to the vacant throne, and the refusal by her Majesty's Government of the Crown of Greece for Prince Alfred. The interest taken in the affairs of Greece by this country had led to the proposal of various candidates, and ultimately, they had suggested that Prince William should accept the throne of Greece. This, however, had not been done without consulting and without the sanction of the King of Denmark. The National Assembly of Greece had also ratified the choice as soon as they received the news of it with acclamation, and they were ready to receive Prince William as their future King. The choice of the Greeks had the cordial assent of the Emperor of the French, and would not be opposed by the Government of Russia. He proceeded to argue that the Ionian Islands were confided to us as a trust, through the influence of Count Capo D'Istria, in order that we might foster free institutions and preserve a Greek nationality in them. Since that time Greece had become a nation, and the desire of the islanders was to form part of that nationality. It would be contrary to the policy of the British Government if the islands wished to sever their connexion with us to prevent them doing so, after the consent of the other parties to the treaty to that step.

Lord DERBY said that in his opinion her Majesty's Government had from first to last played fast and loose with the Greeks. As regarded the Ionian Islands, he asked what steps had been taken to ascertain the opinions of the other Powers, that the cession of those islands to Greece would meet with their approbation. Declining to discuss the policy of the cession of these islands, he doubted whether such a step would be for the advantage of Greece itself. In regard to Corfu, he did not at all recognise the impossibility of separating that island from the others.

Lord GRANVILLE vindicated Earl Russell, and showed that it would be hardly possible to cede all the Ionian Islands except Corfu. The retention of so strong a fortress, after foregoing the protectorate of the other islands, would be strongly opposed by the parties to the treaty of 1815.

METROPOLITAN RAILWAYS.

On the motion of Lord GRANVILLE, a select committee was appointed to inquire which of the various bills before Parliament for the construction of lines of railway within the limits of the metropolis can be proceeded with in the present session without the risk of interfering with the future adoption of a comprehensive plan of metropolitan railway communication.

Their Lordships adjourned at ten minutes to eight o'clock.

On Friday there was a considerable debate on the case of the removal of two of the Judges of the Supreme Council of the Ionian Islands, in which Lord Chelmsford, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Derby, the Lord Chancellor, and Earl Grey took part.

The Courts of the Church of Scotland Bill was passed through committee.

Their Lordships then adjourned, at eight o'clock.

On Monday the Royal assent was given, by commission, to several bills. Several bills were advanced a stage. The Earl of Hardwicke called attention to the subject of naval courts of inquiry, and condemned the course often taken in them of setting aside the verdicts of courts-martial. He specially reprehended what had been done in the case of her Majesty's ship *Vigilant* and Lord Elphinstone. The Duke of Somerset justified the conduct of the Admiralty in the matter. After some discussion the matter dropped. The Earl of Shaftesbury postponed his motion as to Poland, having ascertained that the noble earl the Secretary for Foreign Affairs had not received any answer to the despatches recently sent to Russia in reference to Poland. Their lordships adjourned shortly after seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday a large number of petitions was presented, chiefly for and against the closing of public-houses on Sunday, against the Prison Ministers Bill, and against the Burials Bill. The latter were chiefly from rural deaneries.

In reply to Mr. Ferrand, Sir G. GREY said it was intended to take the discussion on the state of the cotton trade on the 27th inst.

BURIALS BILL.

Sir S. MORTON PETO, in moving the second reading of this bill, said that in 1861 he introduced a bill, which was founded on an act that had worked very successfully in Ireland, but which went somewhat further than its prototype. In deference to the wish of many members he asked leave to withdraw that measure. He was not permitted to do so, but the division showed that a large section of the House approved the principle of the bill. Last year he introduced another bill, in exact accordance with Lord

Plunkett's Irish Act, which was considered and revised by a select committee, composed of the members for the Universities and other gentlemen in whom the House reposed confidence. The committee did not conclude its labours until the Session was far advanced, and the matter was therefore deferred until the present year. The bill which he now asked the House to read a second time was precisely the same as that which came from the hands of the select committee. (Hear, hear.) The more the question was examined, the more apparent it would be that there was a real, substantial grievance, and that it could be easily remedied. It must not be supposed that because there were scarcely any petitions in favour of the bill it did not meet with public approbation. He had expressly advised that no petitions should be got up, because he desired that the measure should be brought under the calm consideration of the House without any appearance of agitation. The bill was, indeed, so simple, practical, and guarded in its provisions that he could not conceive there would be any strong, tangible opposition to it. It was quite a mistake to imagine that it would be prejudicial to the interests of the Established Church. He was aware that it had been hinted that the present attempt to get access to the churchyards was only a prelude to an attempt to get possession of the churches; but he disclaimed all ulterior designs of that nature. (Hear, hear.) All he wanted was to procure for Dissenters permission to have burial services performed in churchyards. It had been said that English Dissenters should be satisfied, like Scotch Presbyterians, with service in a private house. There could be no doubt that there was throughout England a strong feeling against interment without a service at the grave; and, moreover, the fact was that members of the Church of England, who were Dissenters in Scotland, were at liberty to perform their burial service in any Presbyterian graveyard. (Hear, hear.)

Lord R. CECIL rose to move that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The hon. gentleman who had introduced the measure had not given to the House any very distinct view either of the grievance he sought to remedy or of the provisions by which he hoped a remedy might be applied. The grievance was simply confined to the sect of the Baptists. By the rubric prefixed to the Burial Service it was forbidden to read the Burial Service over any persons unbaptized, excommunicated, or those who had laid violent hands on themselves; but it did not exclude from the performance of the Burial Service the vast mass of the Dissenting body. (Hear, hear.) The Baptists were in the habit of deferring baptism until a later period of life than was practised among other denominations, and the result was that when a Baptist child died it fell within the meaning of the rubric. There were, however, no less than 400 cemeteries in this country, divided into consecrated and unconsecrated ground, where people could have whatever burial service they pleased, and therefore it was only in very remote and sequestered districts, beyond the reach of these 400 cemeteries, that the grievance complained of could arise. When the House considered that a sixth of the whole of the additions to churchyards had been the result of private benefactions, they should pause before they sanctioned the present bill. The effect of the bill would be nothing more nor less than actual spoliation of Church property for the benefit of antagonistic sects.

Parliament had of late years played strange tricks with private property, but nothing of this kind had ever been proposed before. They had not hesitated to alienate property left by donors or testators, but in those cases whole centuries had elapsed, and he did not believe it had ever been proposed to take property given to one religious denomination and hand it over to its opponents within the lifetime of the donors. (Hear.) That was as plain and simple an act of spoliation as if they were to take the churchyards and convert them into theatres or dancing-rooms. (Cries of "Oh!") He did not mean, of course, to compare Dissenting burial-grounds to theatres or dancing-rooms; all he desired to say was that the proposed use of the churchyards was as little in accordance with the wishes of the original donors as if they were devoted to something wholly alien to the spirit of religion. (Hear, hear.)

He opposed the bill because he believed it would be found that it would never work well, and that it would be most destructive to the peace and harmony of the various parishes. He believed the practical result of the measure would be that the clergy would in nine cases out of ten refuse to admit Dissenters to the graveyards. If they passed the measure those who promoted it would not only not effect their object but it would cause greater discord than had prevailed up to the present time.

A clergyman who refused to permit a Baptist minister to read his service in the churchyard must give his reasons to the bishop. As became a clergyman in communication with his spiritual superior, he would, no doubt, be frank and open, stating fully what his objections were. One could imagine what, in some cases, those objections would be. Sometimes they would be objections to the character of the Dissenting minister who desired to perform the service; at other times they would be objections to the character of the deceased. Occasionally they would be general objections to the sect to which the Dissenting minister belonged, but most frequently, perhaps, they would be grounded upon a knowledge of the ulterior objects which such demands were made to enforce. (Hear, hear.) We should have the clergyman revealing to his bishop his experience of the agitation of the Liberation Society in his own parish. The bishop would forward them to the Secretary of State, who would put them into a blue-book, and thus we should have collected every season, for the benefit of both Houses, the opinions of the clergy of the Church upon the Liberation Society and the Baptist ministers expressed in the plainest and frankest language. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) When they considered that these

blue-books would be published to all the world, that their racy passages would be transferred to the columns of the *Liberator* and the *Nonconformist*, and that their contents in a still more garbled form would gradually find their way into the local newspapers, he asked them whether this bill, which was to introduce so much peace, harmony, and unity, would really have that effect in most of the parishes in England? (Hear, hear.)

What did the supporters of the bill expect to gain by it? Simply agitation—agitation, their chief instrument for the furtherance of their schemes. They had only lately declared that agitation was that which most injured State-Churchism, and if this bill were passed it would give them an established "raw" in every parish, with the means of working it according to their own discretion. Was the House, then, going to assist them in their plans? For the sake of the peace of the parishes, the successful ministration of religion, and out of respect for the dead, he earnestly hoped the House would not sanction the bill.

Lord HENLEY, in supporting the bill, said that the evil was not so small as the noble lord had represented, for it existed in almost every rural parish. He believed there were few country parishes in which Dissenters, though called upon to pay Church-rates, had ground in which they could bury their dead. As shown by the provisions of this bill, they were exceedingly moderate in their demands, not asking admission into the church, but merely requesting that their ministers might be permitted to perform a few simple rites over their dead.

Mr. NEWDEGATE inveighed against the bill as subversive of the just rights of the Established Church, and intolerant towards the clergy.

Mr. GLADSTONE, after adverting to the circumstances under which the bill originated, said that though it was open to exception in some of its provisions, he should feel the greatest doubt and hesitation in opposing the second reading. He did not understand it to be clear law whether the unbaptized had a right to sepulture in the parish churchyard or not. If they had not, he could not deny that it seemed to him to be a question worthy of the consideration of the House whether or not the law should be altered in that respect. He spoke now simply of sepulture, and not of religious rites, nor did he presume to give a very confident opinion on that point. The grievance as affecting the Dissenter was, he thought this:—

If he has access to the churchyard, or has access to it subject exclusively and absolutely to the condition of having the service of the Church read over his remains, I confess I do not think that that is a state of the law which is consistent with those principles of civil and religious freedom on which for a series of years our legislation has been based. (Hear, hear.) I do not see that there is sufficient reason, or, indeed, any reason at all, why, after having granted, and most properly granted, to the entire community the power of professing and practising what form of religion they please during life, you should say to themselves or their relations when they are dead, "We will at the last lay our hands upon you, and not permit you to enjoy the privilege of being buried in the churchyard where, perhaps, the ashes of your ancestors repose, or, at any rate, in the place of which you are parishioners, unless you appear there as members of the Church of England, and, as members of that Church, have her service read over your remains." (Hear, hear.) That appears to me an inconsistency and anomaly in the present state of the law, and is in the nature of a grievance.

The first clause of the bill gave expression to that grievance, and was adopted with the general, he believed he might say the unanimous, approval of the committee of last session. That alone was of sufficient magnitude to justify legislation. He thought that the having before them a provision of such a kind in such a bill was a good reason why they should refer the measure to a committee, even if they must despair of making an arrangement with regard to anything beyond that.

But whether that be a matter on which we have or have not much hope of a satisfactory solution, I submit that the state of the law with regard to burial without the service is inconsistent with the general principles of our legislation; that it does constitute a grievance on the part of those who are not connected with the Church of England, and forms also a sufficient ground for giving a second reading to this bill, especially when we bear in mind that the provision that I have named received the deliberate, the general, and perhaps I might be correct in saying the unanimous, approval of a carefully constituted select committee. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. G. HARDY maintained that while the Church of England was left in possession of her churches and churchyards she was entitled to hold them with the same rights as the Baptists or any other Dissenting denomination held their chapels and graveyards. (Hear, hear.) She was entitled to use them for her own services and for her own services only, to the exclusion of all others; and she could not admit the services of certain sects of Dissenters and exclude those of others without violating the very principle of religious liberty which had been mistakenly quoted in support of this measure. The Dissenting bodies did not consist of Baptists, Wesleyans, and Independents merely, but of many other sects, some of whose tenets were almost of a ludicrous description, and involved rites which were offensive not only to members of the Established Church, but to every Christian denomination. The first clause of the bill was comparatively immaterial, because every resident parishioner was entitled to a last resting-place in the churchyard, even although no service was performed. In 1811 Sir John Nichol decided that any lay baptism was valid; that any resident parishioner who had received such baptism was entitled to a place in the churchyard. The question never arose except in this way—that a clergyman having refused to perform the last rites of the Church of England over a person who had

undergone lay baptism, Sir J. Nichol said he was wrong and that he had no right to refuse. If the Church was to be trusted with her property, let them trust her with it like men and statesmen. If she was to be a national Church, let them not weaken her by frittering away her rights; but, on the other hand, if she failed in her sacred duty, let those rights be wholly taken from her.

Sir C. DOUGLAS said that, having thought that a measure sanctioned by the select committee was likely to be acceptable to the House, he had consented to place his name on the back of this bill. The noble lord the member for Stamford stated that this bill was supported by the Liberation Society; but on that point he must contradict the noble lord. He read extracts from letters addressed to the hon. baronet who brought forward the bill, by the chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of that society. The first, referring to Sir Morton's new bill, says:—

Even thus mutilated there is but too much evidence in the public prints that the bill is destined for as active an opposition as when presented in its original shape; while even if carried, in its operation it will too surely subject Dissenting ministers in the country, for whom almost exclusively it must be designed, to a capricious and insulting intolerance from the Church clergy even more fatal to their influence with their flocks than their present exclusion from the churchyard.

The second extract was to the following effect:—

I have seen my friends on the subject of the Burial Bill; while I am afraid I must acknowledge the continuance of a strong dislike to seeing the bill in its present shape associated with the name of a Dissenting M.P. as its introducer, yet as they understand that you consider yourself pledged to the select committee, and are in fact bringing it forward to enable them to explain their views respecting the general question, and this duty does hold yourself free as regards any future Burial Bill, and that you propose so to explain the matter to the House, they think they ought not further to press upon you the objections to which you have kindly deferred, and beg to leave the matter in your hands.

The Liberation Society was a mere bagbear, brought forward by hon. gentlemen opposite; and he should give his support to the second reading of the bill.

Sir J. TRELAUNY would oppose the second reading of the bill, because it would put Dissenters in a false position with reference to the question of Church-rates. Their present position was that they derived no advantage from Church-rates; but if this bill passed the argument for the abolition of Church-rates would lose its force. He must also say, with reference to the Liberation Society, that, as he was informed, they had nothing to do with the bill; in fact, many members of that society rather disapproved it.

Mr. HUNT said that great pains had been taken to show that the bill did not emanate from the Liberation Society; but they only wanted a much stronger and more coercive measure. They would regard it only as an instalment, and in a few years, if this bill passed, they would get all they wished. With reference to the first part of the bill, he would say, if any doubt existed as to the state of the law, let a short act be passed to declare what it was, not to alter the whole law. But the second part of the bill was the most objectionable, and would virtually disestablish the Church of England. Ministers of every Dissenting denomination would by this bill be put on a par, as regards the Burial Service, with the ministers of the Church; and if that were so with respect to burials, why not with respect to other parts of the service?

Sir G. GREY said, in voting for the second reading of the bill, he was anxious not to be supposed to give his sanction to some of its provisions, concurring with the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his objection to the second clause.

Mr. DISRAELI protested against the argument that the House ought to be governed by the recommendation of a Select Committee. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would support the second reading of the bill, though he admitted that the second clause might lead to a breach of the peace. This was a singular course for a Minister of the Crown to pursue. He denied that the principles of civil and religious liberty were violated by the present state of things.

The principles of religious liberty in this country have secured, happily for every subject of her Majesty, the enjoyment of all the rites of their religion. They have secured buildings to assemble in, and no one interferes with them. They have a right to consecrated or unconsecrated sepulture, and no one questions their right. But the principles of religious liberty are impugned if you pass a law by which the Dissenters may say, "We will invade your sacred places (Hear, hear), and will enforce our claims to keep your consecrated ground for the interment of our dead, according to our conditions and regulations. (Hear.) If, therefore, the question of religious liberty is at all involved in the consideration of this measure, the violation of the principle of religious liberty is as against the followers of the Church of England, and not against the Dissenters."

He could not understand the grounds upon which the Home Secretary supported the bill. If there were any doubt whether unbaptized persons had a right to be buried in the parochial churchyard, let a measure be brought in to put an end to it. He very much regretted the support which the bill had received, especially from the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

I remember some words which were only very recently uttered in this House on a cognate subject by one of its most distinguished members. We were told then that the real enemies of the Church were rather to be found within the pale of the Church than without it; and when the right hon. gentleman spoke this morning I was painfully reminded that I had heard the truth only a few days ago from the same lips. (Hear, hear.)

He could not disconnect that bill from the systems.

timed attack on the Church of England which session after session they have had to encounter.

I am perfectly ready to do justice to the character and motives of the hon. baronet who brings this measure before the House. He is one whom all respect, and are entitled to respect; but this question is not to be decided by personal considerations. It is impossible to shut our eyes to the anti-ecclesiastical campaign which is every year commenced. Once we looked forward to these efforts with anxiety. I am glad to say that repeated discussions at least permit us to look forward to them without fear. (Hear, hear.) I hope the House will not hesitate as to the course they will take on this occasion. We at least meet on all these questions a foe that does not conceal its purpose, but honourably announces the object which it has in view. Nor do I deny the considerable force with which that object may be pressed and prosecuted. It becomes, therefore, the part of those who wish to uphold the present ecclesiastical settlement of this country to exert their utmost energies (Hear, hear,) and to show their utmost vigilance at this crisis in the fortunes of the Church of England. (Hear, hear.) We have been told that we are living, as regards the institutions of the country, in dark and stormy times. It may be so; I believe it is so; but for my part I should hold our chances of ultimate security greatly diminished if the light in that Pharos were extinguished. May it long guide us, and I am sure that we can do no better deed to-day than at once by the rejection of this measure show that we are prepared to uphold not merely the legal privileges, but what I believe are the strong convictions of the people with regard to the Church. (Cheers.)

The House then divided. The numbers were—
For the second reading ... 96
Against it ... 221
Majority ... 125

The defeat of the Bill was received with cheering from the Opposition benches.

The Gardens in Towns Protection Bill passed through committee, as did the Oaths Relief in Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Bill.

A new writ was ordered to issue for the return of a member for the borough of Thetford in the room of the Earl of Euston, now Duke of Grafton.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter-past four o'clock.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Thursday, Mr. FERRAND gave notice to move, on Monday, 27th inst., "That it is the duty of the Government to consider what steps should be taken to relieve the distress in the cotton districts."

Mr. V. SOULLY gave notice of an amendment to the motion of Mr. Ferrand, that it was equally the duty of the Government to take measures to relieve the existing distress in Ireland.

Mr. HORNBY gave notice for next Friday to call attention to the seizure of the Alexandra at Liverpool.

FITTING OUT OF CONFEDERATE VESSELS.

In answer to Lord R. Cecil, Sir G. GREY said that no spies had been employed at Liverpool to watch persons supposed to be fitting out vessels for the Confederate States. He had received a letter from the Foreign Secretary stating that vessels were being "quipped at Liverpool in violation of the Foreign Enlistment Act, and asking inquiry to be made. He had sent that letter to the Major of Liverpool, and directed him to make the necessary inquiries, and he had placed the matter in the hands of the head constable.

THE BUDGET.

In committee of ways and means,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER brought forward his financial statement. He said that the causes which had given peculiar interest to the financial statements of the last few years were not such as it was desirable should be permanent, as they resulted from unusual pressure on the national resources. A resolution had been passed by the House, that while it was necessary to provide for the defence of the country the burden of taxation should be dealt with by the executive. His statement that night, therefore, would be not merely an account of the national resources, but an answer on the part of the Government to that resolution. Looking to the average expenditure of the years since 1858, it would be found that in that year it was 64,164,000*l.*; in 1859-60 it was 69,562,000*l.*, while in 1860-61 it was 72,842,000*l.*, making an increase of over 8,000,000*l.*, from 1858 to that year. The average annual expenditure from 1859 to 1863, including the charge for fortifications, was 71,195,000*l.*, or without the charge for fortifications, was 70,678,000*l.* It was necessary, in order to arrive at an exact knowledge of the actual expenditure of this country, to exclude certain items which in their nature did not increase—namely, the interest of the national debt and the charge for the collection of the revenue. Excluding these items, it would be found that the charge for the year 1858-59 was 31,621,000*l.*; for 1860-61, 42,125,000*l.*, being an increase of ten millions and a half in two years. Previous to the Russian war, that is in 1853-4, the actual charge was 23,611,000*l.*, while in 1860-61, it had risen to 42,125,000*l.*, being an increase in seven years of something like 18,000,000*l.* He did not say that this increase was without reason or cause, having been called for by the public desire to strengthen the defence of the country; and in 1860-61 there were actual war-charges which caused an increase in expenditure. It was certain that with the expenditure itself there grew up a spirit of expenditure which pervaded the country, and even extended to the administrators of the public service. It was not on the part of the Government that he made this statement; all he had to say for the Government was that in making the increase in expenditure, they certainly did not outrun, but certainly fell short of public opinion. The result was that the finances of the country had been kept in a

state of tension for the last four years, and he would make the admission that this tension was occasioned by the policy of the Government. Coming to the consideration of the balance-sheet of the year, he drew attention to the mode in which the estimates were framed last year. He submitted the estimates last year with particular reserve, and presented an estimate of income and expenditure which just balanced each other, and this was done with reference to circumstances which might disturb, and that unfavourably, the balances. The estimates he now had to make were hopeful, but they must be taken with regard to special circumstances, such as the condition of Lancashire. Passing a glowing eulogy on the moral and social attitude of the people of those districts, he proceeded to dwell on the melancholy state of the material condition of Lancashire. The calculation with regard to that condition last year was founded on the supposition that the absence of manufacture might be taken at the point at which it then stood, but experience had shown that the price of cotton, which was then 8*d.* a lb., had now reached to 2*s.* a lb., and therefore the distress in Lancashire had reached to a state of the utmost stringency, and it was with reference to the state of this, the wealthiest part of the community and the most prosperous body of workmen in the country, that the balance-sheet of the year had been prepared. Another cause of the depression was the distress in Ireland, of which he believed that the country had formed no adequate idea. The Government had received a statement of the agricultural position of Ireland. It referred to the crops of 1860-61 and 1862-63 as compared with the previous four years, namely, from 1856 to 1860. It appeared that the average value of the wheat, oat, and potato crops, and the live stock in Ireland, amounted from 1856 to 1860 to 39,439,000*l.*; in 1860-61 it was 34,593,000*l.*; in 1861-62, it was 29,077,000*l.*, showing a decrease of some ten millions and a half; and in 1862-63, it amounted to 27,327,000*l.*, or a decrease of twelve millions, or one-third of the value of the agricultural products of the country. These circumstances tended necessarily to diminish the general revenue, and must be taken into account. The revenue of last year was estimated at 70,108,000*l.*, and the expenditure at 70,040,000*l.*; but the actual expenditure had amounted to 69,301,000*l.*, making a difference of 1,301,000*l.* A comparison between the expenditure of former years and last year stood thus: in 1862-63 it was 69,301,000*l.*; in 1861-62 it was 70,838,000*l.*; in 1860-61 it was 72,504,000*l.*, being more than 3,000,000*l.* over that of last year; and in 1859-60 it was 70,007,000*l.*, being 715,000*l.* above that of last year. But this was not the real decrease, for in 1862-63 there was a charge of 1,100,000*l.* which existed, but did not appear in the estimates of previous years, so that the real decrease last year was, as compared with 1861-62, 2,621,000*l.*; with 1860-61 of 4,270,000*l.*; and with 1859-60, 1,840,000*l.* His estimate for the year was 70,790,000*l.*, which had been subject to a drawback on the duty on hops; and, taking that into account, the actual revenue was 70,603,000*l.*, leaving a difference of 153,000*l.* between the estimates and the receipt. There had been an increase on the customs in the year of 454,000*l.* On the excise there had been a decrease in the estimate of 1,185,000*l.*, the principal items of decrease being malt and spirits. In this there was nothing to compare, as those items were proofs of the depression in the condition of the working classes. Although the estimate on spirits had fallen short, yet, as compared with the three previous years, the falling off had not been so remarkable. As compared with the previous three years, and taking the increase in the duty into consideration, there had been no essential falling off in the receipts of the duty, while the illicit distillation of last year had never been so small. Any falling off in this duty was also to be attributed to a change in the taste of the country for milder and less inflammatory beverages. Comparing the revenue of last year with that which immediately preceded it, it would be found that in 1861-2 it amounted to 69,724,000*l.* gross, while deducting 1,747,000*l.* for certain items under the head "miscellaneous" and the China indemnity, the real amount was 67,927,000*l.* In 1862-63, the gross amount was 70,603,000*l.*, from which 2,813,000*l.* was to be deducted for "miscellaneous" and China indemnity to make the net amount. In 1861-62 there were items in the income-tax at 10*d.* in the pound, and loss on paper and hops amounting to 940,000*l.*, which must be deducted from the revenue of 1861. The result was that the net revenue in 1861-62 was 66,985,000*l.*, and that of 1862-63 67,890,000*l.*, being an increase in the latter year of about 800,000*l.* The reductions which had taken place in customs duties had caused some change, but in 1862-3 the revenue from that source was equal to that which it was four years ago, notwithstanding reductions in the tariff of over two millions. He now came to the estimate of expenditure and revenue for the coming year. Including the charge for interest on funded debt, consolidated fund, army and navy, and miscellaneous, which latter were not quite settled, the items of packet service and contemplated conversion of stock, the total estimate of expenditure would be 67,749,000*l.* He had not included any estimate for fortifications, for which Parliament had made other provision. His estimate of the revenue for the ensuing year was taken at 71,490,000*l.*, including 24,118,000*l.* from customs, 17,600,000*l.* from excise, and if he was asked why he estimated the return from this source at a greater amount than it produced last year, he would say that in last year it was subjected to the loss of the hop-duty, while the corresponding duty on malt this year would be better than that of last year. Stamps were esti-

mated at 9,000,000*l.*, taxes at 3,160,000*l.*, income-tax at 10,500,000*l.*, which, with Post-office, Crown lands, miscellaneous, and China indemnity, made 71,490,000*l.*, and the expenditure being estimated at 67,749,000*l.*, there was a difference of 3,741,000*l.* It would probably be thought that the Government should proceed to diminish taxation under these circumstances, and not speak of augmentation, but there were always anomalies in taxation to be removed. There had already been a diminution in the tobacco-duty. It was proposed to raise the duty on chicory so as to equalise it with that on coffee. He should propose to pass a resolution to that effect at once. It was an anomaly that liquors sold in clubs were sold without any license-duty; and it was proposed that clubs should pay the same duty on liquors as the keepers of hotels and coffee-houses. (Great sensation.) It was intended that a person who arrived at the possession of a beer-license through the medium of first taking a spirit-license should pay the same duty as one who obtained it without that process. He should give a license at a charge of 1*l.* to wholesale beer-merchants to sell in quantities under two-dozen bottles, or 4½ gallons of beer. Carriers would be subjected to one-half the duty now paid by stage-carriage proprietors. Railway companies did not now pay any duty on excursion trains, while they paid 5 per cent. on ordinary traffic; and it was proposed to do away with exemptions and to commute the duty paid by railway companies to a general charge of 3½ per cent. The duty on charitable legacies in Ireland would be assimilated to that in England. He proposed to do away with the exemption from income-tax of endowed charities, though it would be continued so far as buildings and sites were concerned. The income of voluntary societies would not be in the least affected by the proposed change. It was calculated that this change would produce 75,000*l.* on the revenue of the present year, which, with other items, would be added to the surplus. The question then arose, what was to be done with that surplus? The charge of a penny on packages on goods inwards, which was imposed in 1861, and which had proved inconvenient, would be dispensed with after the 1st July. With this stood the charge of 1*s.* 6*d.* on bills of lading outwards, and that would also cease at the same time. The revenue from these charges was 191,000*l.*, the loss for the present year being 94,000*l.* Referring to the minor incomes subject to income-tax, he stated that when that tax was first imposed by Mr. Pitt it touched incomes of 60*l.* a-year, but the full force of the tax was felt only on incomes of 200*l.*, and that was the limit at which the full operation of the tax was then fixed. The limit was afterwards 150*l.* during its continuance as an impost, and Sir R. Peel revived it at that amount. In 1853, when the tax was renewed for seven years, the limit was taken downwards to 100*l.* a-year. The real sore in the working of the tax was with regard to incomes between 100*l.* and 200*l.* a-year. It was proposed to retain the income of 100*l.* as the point at which a man was taxable, and to fix that of 200*l.* as the point when he should come under the full force of the tax, to remove the rate of 150*l.* altogether, and to allow the man in the receipt of an income between 100*l.* and 200*l.* to deduct 60*l.* from his taxable income, which would largely reduce the amount of the tax on a *pro rata* scale. With regard to the tea and sugar duties, it was thought advisable in dealing with them to choose one of them rather than to divide reduction between them. Reviewing the arguments in favour of reduction on both sides, he stated that he had come to the conclusion that the duty on tea should be reduced to 1*s.* a lb., which would take effect immediately after a resolution should be agreed to by the House on Thursday next, and the remission would come into operation on Saturday week. The duty would stand thus till 1864. The result would be that a diminution of revenue was estimated in the case of tea at 1,300,000*l.* As regarded the decrease in the revenue from the income-tax consequent on the proposed change, if a decrease was to be made from 9*d.* and 7*d.* in the pound to 7*d.* and 6*d.*, the loss would be 2,350,000*l.* per annum, while by the relief to minor incomes there would be a loss of 1,300,000*l.* on the present year. It was proposed to make a reduction of 2*d.* in the pound on the general rate, and thus the whole remission of taxation on the year would be 3,340,000*l.*, while the total remission, present and prospective, would be 4,601,000*l.* The surplus at his disposal, taking into account the additions to taxation which had been made, was 3,874,000*l.*; and after the remissions above stated there would be left an actual surplus of 534,000*l.* With that surplus it was not proposed to part. In an elaborate review of the income and expenditure of the country in the last four years, the right hon. gentleman showed the state of the balances in the exchequer, and stated that he should move resolutions empowering him to pay Exchequer Bonds due next month out of the balances, although he should ask for powers to re-borrow the sum so paid off in the course of the year, if necessary. He showed that in those four years 8,000,000*l.* had been paid for expenditure in China, and the charge of the reconstruction of the navy had been met; and this out of the ordinary resources of the country. Drawing attention to some statistics in reference to the trade of the country, he pointed out that there had been a very large increase in the consumption of paper. The imports of foreign paper had largely increased, but there had also been a great increase in the manufacture and export of British paper, while the import of rags had been added to in more than an equal proportion. As regarded wine, there had been a small increase in the trade in Spanish wines, and a slight diminution in those of France and Portugal. Referring to the trade with America and France, he showed

a decrease of 6,000,000*l.* in trade with the former, while in the case of France there had been an increase of over 12,000,000*l.* He stated that in the nineteen years of the income-tax, which was imposed for the purpose of assisting the development of the resources of the country by means of remission of taxes on the industry of the country, there had been an extension of the wealth of the country amounting to 65,000,000*l.* of annual income. Drawing a powerful comparison between the financial position and the condition of the people of this and other countries, he attributed such a state of things to the legislation of late years, as well as to the energy and industry of the British people; and, referring to the large military expenditure of the world, he expressed a hope that the fact of a large reduction at this moment of the burdens of the country would be accepted as a friendly challenge to other nations to contribute to the harmony and peace of the civilised world. The right hon. gentleman concluded amidst loud cheers, having spoken nearly three hours.

A desultory discussion followed, in which Mr. White, Mr. Crawford, Lord R. Montagu, Mr. Vance, Mr. Scully, Colonel Barttelot, Sir F. Crossley, Sir H. Willoughby, and Mr. Lindsay took part. After which a resolution relating to the duty on chicory was put and agreed to, and the House resumed.

On the second reading of the Assurances Registration (Ireland) Bill, a debate which ensued was adjourned.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past one o'clock.

CHINA.

On Friday, Col. SYKES asked if the bodies of the officers and British subjects attached to Ward's Chinese levies, and killed upon the attack on Tai-tsing, had been recovered; whether it was true, as stated in the Shanghai newspaper, that two pieces of her Majesty's ordnance were lost in the attack; and whether the officers of her Majesty's 31st and 67th Foot, of the Marine Light Infantry, and of the Royal Engineers, were present at the attack, which took place beyond the thirtieth-mile radius from Shanghai.

Mr. LAYARD said it appeared that an attack was made by Ward's force upon Tai-tsing, under the authority of a Chinese officer, but contrary to the advice of General Staveley, who, however, allowed Capt. Holland to accompany the force, fearing that some disaster might occur. Two guns appeared to have been lost, but he was not aware that they were guns belonging to her Majesty. No English officer was present except Captain Holland.

THE ALEXANDRA.

Mr. CORDEN gave notice of the following motion, to follow that of Mr. Horfall's on the 24th, in reference to the seizure of the Alexandra:—

To invite the attention of the House to the motives of national self-interest, and to the obligations of implied international arrangements, by which the British Government is called upon for a vigilant and rigid enforcement of those provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act which forbid the furnishing ships of war to belligerent Powers, to be employed against another Power with which this country is at peace.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE.

On the order of the day for going into Committee of Supply, Sir F. SMITH moved that so much of the report of the Commissioners on Harbours of Refuge as applies to Waterford, Wick, and Padstow, be carried into effect. Mr. KENDALL seconded the motion. Sir J. HAY recommended that the bay of Filey should be constructed into a harbour of refuge, inasmuch as there was no harbour in which laden vessels could find shelter in a gale from the Humber to the Forth. Sir J. ELPHINSTONE also advanced the claims of Filey bay. After a short discussion, Mr. GIBSON opposed the motion, on the general ground that it was best for the interest of trade and the safety of life and property to leave the question mainly to the persons interested in the particular localities. If the House once got into the system of granting the public money to such localities he did not know where it would end. If they gave money to one place they would be called on to give it to another, and their time would be occupied in settling the rival claims upon the public purse. After some remarks from Sir J. PAXINGTON, the motion was negatived without a division.

SEWAGE OF TOWNS.

Mr. BRADY called the attention of the House to commissions appointed to inquire into the best mode of utilising the sewage of towns and applying it to beneficial and profitable uses. He urged the expediency of granting any further public money for the use of the commission. Mr. COWPER expressed his approval of the returns and reports of the commissioners, whose services were calculated to be of great service to municipal bodies. The problem of utilising the sewage of towns yet remained to be solved, and it was chiefly from the continuance of the labours of the commission that he hoped for a solution.

RUSSIA, SWEDEN, AND GREECE.

Mr. GRIFFITH asked Lord Palmerston if he was in a position to explain what was the existing state of the relations between Russia and Sweden on the subject of Poland.

Lord H. LENNOX complained that he had been snubbed by Mr. Layard on Tuesday, when he asked for information with reference to the election of Prince William of Denmark to the throne of Greece.

Lord PALMERSTON would not follow Mr. Griffith into a dissertation on the Polish question. He would only say that her Majesty's Government were not aware that there was likely to be any interruption of the good relations now existing between the Governments of Sweden and Russia in reference to Poland. He thought Lord H. Lennox had made an unfair charge against the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. The noble lord appeared to have overlooked

the distinction between the nature of a question and the nature of an answer. A question itself might not be indiscreet, but it might be very indiscreet to answer it. (Laughter.) Perhaps the noble lord would excuse him if he declined to state all that had passed with regard to the communication which took place with regard to the election of Prince William of Denmark to the throne of Greece, but this he would tell him, that her Majesty's Government had not acted with the precipitation which had been ascribed to them. No communication was made to Greece which the Government were not authorised to make, and the actual election of Prince William at Athens was so entirely the result of the impulse of the moment that it was even a surprise to the Ministers of the Greek Government. The noble lord must excuse him if he did not enter into the actual state of the communications now going on, but he had full reason to hope that the election made by the Greek Assembly would be completed by the acceptance of the throne by Prince William.

THE BUDGET.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and shortly afterwards resumed.

Upon bringing up the report of ways and means, Sir S. NORTHCOTE availed himself of the opportunity to criticise the details of the Budget. He expressed his belief that the financial statement, as a whole, would be satisfactory to the public generally; but he thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer had over-estimated the produce of the excise, as he had done in former years. On the whole, however, taking one thing with another, he believed the estimate of the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be realised, and that the surplus upon which he calculated would be found to be correct. In his opinion, the Budget had for its foundation a large and wise reduction in the expenditure of the country, and he thought nothing could have been more reasonable than the reduction contemplated by the Government. They had done as much in one year as could reasonably be expected of them, but he believed there was a margin of three or four millions, which might still be considered with a view to the further reduction of the public expenditure.

After a short conversation the report was agreed to. The Telegraphs Bill was agreed to be re-committed, and the Office of Secretary at War Abolition Bill and the Oaths Relief in Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Bill were read a third time, and passed.

Other orders were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter to one.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER.

On Monday, in answer to Mr. Peacocke, Mr. LAYARD said that the subject of Mr. Adams, the American Minister, having granted a pass to a British vessel having arms on board and bound for Mexico, to enable her to go unmolested by the Federal cruisers, was under the consideration of the Government, and no communication had been made on the matter of Mr. Adams.

PRISON MINISTERS BILL.

Sir G. GREY moved the second reading of the Prison Ministers Bill. He stated that he did not think that the bill involved any question of interference with the Protestant religious feeling of the country, nor any new principle, but merely extended a principle now in operation in reference to the religious instruction of prisoners in gaols. He did not, however, attempt to conceal that the measure would apply principally to Roman Catholic prisoners. There was a large number of Roman Catholic prisoners confined in the borough and county prisons of England. In some prisons the number of Roman Catholics exceeded those who were Protestants. In every gaol in Ireland there was a paid Roman Catholic and a paid Protestant clergyman, and the latter was kept up even when there was not a single Protestant prisoner in the gaol. The present bill left it to the justices of quarter sessions to decide whether a regular Roman Catholic chaplain should be appointed to gaols in England and Scotland, while there could be a religious classification of prisoners, so that the creeds may be distinguishable, for the purpose of religious instruction.

Mr. H. G. LANGTON moved the rejection of the bill. He argued that the bill was, in fact, one solely applicable to Roman Catholics; and he contended that, looking to the facilities which existed already for the admission of ministers of all persuasions to prisoners in gaols, the bill was unnecessary; while it created an additional charge on the rates. He also urged that the principle of the bill, which proposed for the first time since the Reformation to pay Roman Catholic priests out of the public funds, was objectionable.

The bill was supported by Mr. Henley, Lord E. Howard, and Colonel Patten, and opposed by Colonel Barttelot, Mr. Selwyn, and Mr. Wyndham.

Mr. BAINES said that having been appealed to on both sides of him, he wished to state what his views were as a Dissenter with regard to the bill. (Hear, hear.) He was rather strong in his attachment to the principles of the Protestant religion, and to the voluntary principle both in regard to religion and education. (Hear, hear.) But, after mature consideration of this bill, he found it impossible to deny the justice of it. (Hear, hear.) There were two plain principles on which the bill rested—the duty and interest of the State to see that persons placed under confinement received moral and religious instruction; and secondly, respect for the rights of conscience, which they were all, he thought, bound to observe whatever might be their religious opinions. (Hear, hear.) On both these grounds he did not think they could with justice refuse to assent to the second reading of the bill; and with regard to the payment of Roman

Catholic clergymen, he could not conceive on what ground those who required payment for the Protestant chaplains opposed payment to Roman Catholics.

Mr. DISRAELI said that there were two great objections to the bill, one that it affected injuriously the status of the Church of England. If he thought it had such a tendency he should oppose it; but he could see no such danger in the allowing prisoners to receive the spiritual aid of ministers of their own communion. The other objection was that the measure was fraught with danger to the Protestant spirit of the country, but he had too much confidence in the strength and the comprehensiveness of that spirit, and which had been so signally evinced on many occasions, to fear for the Protestant interests of the country on account of a bill which entrusted to the discretion of the leading men of the country the conduct of a proceeding such as was proposed by the bill, namely, the appointment of the religious teachers of our gaols. He thought that the measure being permissive was in its favour, and as it introduced no new principle, but only carried out one which had long been acknowledged and acted on, he hoped the House would accept the bill.

Lord PALMERSTON said that if the question was, as it had been represented to be, one between the Protestant and Roman Catholic religions, he should oppose this bill, but it was, in fact, a question between sound sense and a most honourable and respectable prejudice. It was, in fact, a carrying out of the principle of abolishing all distinctions in social and civil life without reference to religious opinions.

After some observations from Mr. NEWDEGATE, in his usual sense, and a vain attempt of Mr. Whalley to obtain a hearing,

On a division the second reading was carried by 182 to 122.

The adjourned debate on the Assurances Registration (Ireland) Bill was resumed by Mr. WHITESIDE, who at great length entered into a history of the registration of deeds in Ireland, and criticised the present bill, to which he was opposed. A division was then taken, and the second reading was carried by 56 to 41.

CHURCH-BUILDING AND NEW PARISHES ACTS.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL, in moving for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the Church Building and New Parishes Acts, explained that it was not intended to introduce any amendments which would lead to controversy, and that therefore the clauses relating to Church-rates would be left as they now stood.

Mr. F. POWELL hoped that the Government would avail themselves of the opportunity to make some necessary amendments in these acts. It was most desirable that power should be given to invest endowments in such a manner as to gain higher rates of interest than could now be obtained; and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners should be enabled to vary the boundaries of existing districts.

Leave was then given to introduce the bill, which was read a first time.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to one o'clock.

SURREY CHAPEL POPULAR LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.—The second course closed last night. The lectures commenced October 20, and have been continued every Monday evening. The average attendance has been 2,000; there have been twenty-six meetings, and thirty-one lectures, in addition to short addresses and recitations. Social questions occupied fourteen of the nights, as follows:—Three lectures on "The American Struggle," by the Rev. N. Hall; four on "Slavery," by Messrs. G. Thompson, B. Scott, Davison, and Jackson; "A Day and Night in St. Giles," by the Rev. W. M'Cree; "Help to Mend Ragged Homes," by the Rev. N. Hall; "Crimean War," and "Temperance," by Mr. Harris; "The Fourth Estate," by Mr. Murphy; "Causes of our National Greatness," by Mr. H. Coesham; "Use and Abuse of Dress," by Dr. Lancaster; "Temperance," by Mr. Murphy and others. There were nine historical subjects:—"Wales," by the Rev. N. Hall; "Druidism and the Eistedfodd," by the same rev. gentleman; "Gunpowder Plot," by the Rev. E. White; "Spanish Armada," by the Rev. B. Brown; two lectures on "The Danes in England," by the Rev. N. Hall; "George Washington," by the Rev. N. Glass; "Our Great Grandfathers," by the Rev. W. Brock; and "Mahomet," by the Rev. N. Hall. A lecture was delivered by Mr. George Cruickshank on "Art." Rev. George Smith gave a lecture on "Shakespeare," and Rev. N. Hall two lectures on "Milton's Paradise Lost." Mr. Tibbutt lectured on "The Gulf Stream"; Rev. W. Landels on "Muscular Christianity"; Mr. Murphy on "Illuminations." There have been also several readings from the poets, with recitations by members of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society. The choir and organist have added to the interest of the meeting by the performance of anthems, &c. The attendance has been almost entirely of the artisan class, the majority being men. Their behaviour has been invariably faultless, and the intelligent appreciation which has been exhibited has been highly gratifying to all the lecturers. The meetings have been always opened by a short collect and the Lord's Prayer, and closed by the Doxology. Many persons have become regular attendants at different churches as the result of coming to these secular lectures. When it is considered how many evenings there are when churches are shut up in solitude and darkness, and what multitudes of working people there are who would gladly attend such lectures instead of spending the evening at a public-house, it is to be hoped that this employment of places of worship will become general.

Literature.

SCIENCE AND SCRIPTURE.*

A fair and honest examination of the objections brought by science against the statements of Scripture, and especially against the Mosaic account of the Creation, by one who frankly admits that science is not amenable to any tribunal but its own, and that an appeal to any other authority is unwise and must be without effect, may well be greeted respectfully and gladly as a work greatly needed in the present state of controversy. Of course there are cavillers enough, who will sneeringly say that such attempts have been made already too often, and have chiefly succeeded in showing from time to time that the reconciliation proclaimed between Scripture and Science had been a false peace and an untenable agreement, requiring to be reconsidered and re-adjusted so frequently that only utter irreconcilableness is proved. Such persons might be answered in passing with the words of a scientific man, who cannot be despised by those who do not share the faith which with him science has confirmed, not shaken;—"Talk about the 'onward march of physical science as we may, we well know that this march is not always a 'movement of progression; science is often 'compelled to retrace its steps, to obliterate 'from the chart of nature in one age much that 'it had mapped down in the preceding, and to 'take a new departure from a previously-attained 'stage of its course';—and again, 'Everybody 'knows that physical hypotheses are by no 'means necessarily physical truths. . . . As 'observation extends, the hypothesis frequently 'requires modification or enlargement, . . . 'and not unfrequently it has to be abandoned altogether.' Instances abound—among the latest, the abandonment of Bode's Law of Planetary distances, necessitated by the single discovery of Neptune,—and Laplace's theory of the cause of the planetary motions, which, failing in the one case of the satellites of Uranus, ceases to be tenable even as an hypothesis. Most vigorously may it be added, that, 'Of all the physical sciences, theoretical geology 'is that which is the least entitled to assume a 'tone of arrogance, and fling its defiance in the 'face of the Old Testament, for, whatever be 'the 'palpable contradictions' between geology 'and this book, they cannot be more glaring than 'those which geology supplies against itself."

These and the previously quoted words are taken by us from a little work which has for some time waited our notice, by Mr. Radford Young, in which he has taken up the principal oppositions of physical science to the cosmogony of the Old Testament, and to the supernatural element in its history. It is distinguished by the true spirit of scientific inquiry, by great knowledge, by keen logical ability, and by a style peculiarly clear, easy, and energetic. Mr. Young finds his way to the very heart and core of the matter to be discussed, clears the question of all irrelevancies, and analytically and critically deals with it with remarkable firmness and precision. The book contains just that sort of inquiry, free from theological assumptions, and penetrated by the best science of the time, which many have desired to see; and bears every trace of being the product of a candid mind which has pursued the investigation independently, earnestly, and for the love of truth only. It is chiefly by the *Essays and Reviews* that Mr. Young's work has been called forth; but while it was going through the press, Dr. Colenso's missile was hurled against the Old Testament; and it has called forth the indignant protest, "Has it come to this? Has 'the Bible fallen so low, that its defenders must 'now enter the arena, not against the science of men, 'but against the science of schoolboys? Is it possible that the time has arrived when the Bible is 'to be dragged before the meanest of tribunals, 'and there arraigned, on the contemptible and 'humiliating charge, that—'it is not according 'to Cocker'?" Mr. Young adds a passing word, with a sting in it, on the Bishop's comparison of the flight out of Egypt with the alarmed arousing of his own household, upon which he has felt justified in declaring the Exodus "utterly incredible and impossible":—"How is it that the right reverend author did 'not for a moment reflect that his people were 'not led by JEHOVAH, nor the people of Israel 'by the Bishop of Natal?" Dr. Colenso is also convicted of one more blunder—inconsiderable among so many, but illustrative of the whole character of the man's mind and of the worth of his discoveries and reasonings—and this blunder happens to be in Dynamics. He says, on the subject of the Miracle of Joshua, so-called, in

reply to any suggestion that the rotation of the earth may have been arrested, "If the earth's 'motion were suddenly stopped, a man's feet 'would be arrested, while his body was moving 'at the rate of 1,000 miles a minute"; &c: on which Mr. Young remarks, "Every tyro in 'Dynamics will see that the feet would advance 'miles, before the body could even reach the 'ground."

The contents of Mr. Young's work are divided into six sections; the first, on some of the more popular alleged discrepancies between science and revelation; the second, an inquiry into the original condition and present figure of the earth, with a review of some prevailing and favourite theories of geologists—from whom the author differs, not on Scriptural but on scientific grounds, although he thinks Scripture suggests modifications of their view by which they might even scientifically profit. He opposes with vigour the molten-globe theory; and shows, at least, that all the upheavals and down-sinkings of the crust of the earth, numbered by geologists up to twenty-nine oscillations, are not accounted for by referring to "the internal movements of the 'fluid nucleus of the globe," while it is precisely the internal movements of this fluid itself that we want accounted for; and that there are so many anomalies and difficulties involved in the theory of a thin crust and igneous fluid interior of the earth, that we may well refuse to accept it as conclusive against Scripture. Since Mr. Young wrote the question has been advancing, and the latest results of scientific speculation point to a revision of the current geological theories. Here we extract a few sentences:—

"It is no doubt comparatively easy, when the only difficulty consists in a choice of hypotheses, to assume the original condition for a planet to have been such that, bringing to bear upon it agencies known and unknown, whatever we please, we may account for the phenomena which an exploration of its surface actually exhibits, and thus dispense with all supernatural power."

"Such an investigation would be analogous to that of certain problems in pure mathematics, which run thus:—Given, such and such data, work out such and such conclusions, without the aid of the differential calculus. So in the geological problem: Given, a sufficiency of molten matter, and what we now call the laws of nature, with time *ad libitum* for their operation, construct the earth's crust, without the aid of Deity. In both problems thought, and ingenuity long exercised, may conduct the hampered inquirer successfully through the intricacies of the narrow path prescribed to him, and the desired conclusion be satisfactorily reached. But in neither case may the process be at all like that of the original proposer and solver of the problem."

The third section of the work is occupied with an examination of the first chapter of Genesis, and is a great enlargement of a pamphlet formerly published by the author. We do not accept all his interpretations, or adopt all his reconciliations; but, to the possible sneerer who may say, "I 'told you so,—they all differ; what's a reconciliation that competent men cannot reconcile themselves to adopt in common?"—we reply, in Mr. Young's words:

"The question is not, whether the details can be filled in as Moses himself would have filled them in; it is not even whether a true explanation of the Mosaic Cosmogony ever has, or ever will, or ever can be given; but it is this:—Can any explanation be given that shall satisfy at once the demands of science and the conditions of the narrative?"

"If Scripture and science can thus be reconciled in only one way, the matter is settled; but if they be shown to be reconcilable in several ways, the allegation that they cannot be reconciled at all is not only falsified, but shown to be proportionately rash and inconsiderate."

In formerly noticing Dr. Kalisch's commentary on Genesis and Dr. Dawson's *Archaia*, we attempted to defend with other writers, the Scripture conception of the "firmament" against the conclusion insisted on by those who derive their notions of it from the Septuagint version; and we here give an excellent passage from Mr. Young, with only a word of caution, that it cannot now be said that "all Hebrew 'scholars agree that the original word conveys 'no idea of solidity."

"We may notice here that the term 'firmament,' by which the Hebrew word has been translated, is not so inappropriate a term as objectors have imagined. If there be any one thing in the whole of material creation which is permanent in situation, firmly and immovably continuing ever in the same place, that thing is the ethereal fluid to which the term is applied. What we call its *motion* is mere vibratory agitation, without any bodily translation of material. There is not the slightest reason to suppose, from anything that science makes known respecting it, that the great body of the ether in which all the luminaries are placed—the firmament—has ever stirred from the position in which the Creator at first placed it. Look, too, at the most ordinary phenomena of light. It is never blown about by the winds, or in the least agitated by atmospheric commotions; for in the most violent storm we see the shadow of an unmoving object remaining itself still unmoved. Light pursues its course unaffected by these surrounding disturbances, and what would prostrate even the firmest oak cannot so much as bend aside the slenderest sunbeam."

"In reference, then, to this peculiarity, and to its permanent immobility as a whole, is there anything absurd, or even inappropriate, in calling it the *firmament*. In reference to its vibratory lustre, is there any-

thing absurd in comparing it to a 'molten metal mirror'? And in reference to its fineness, its tenuity, and its tremulousness, is there anything absurd in comparing it to a delicate 'curtain'?"

"The reasons given above to justify the propriety of the term *firmament*, as applied to the celestial expanse, are not pretended to be those which prevailed with the Seventy when they translated the Hebrew word for this expanse by the Greek word *stereoma*. The translators were not inspired men; they knew very well that the Hebrew term designated the region in which the heavenly bodies were placed; and, since, in their own day, there were prevalent certain philosophical convictions as to the physical character of this region, they very naturally employed that Greek word in their translation which best accorded with those scientific convictions. All Hebrew scholars agree that the original word conveys no idea of solidity; the Greek substitute for it does convey such an idea; the original implies nothing at all as to the material or physical constitution of the firmament; and the translators, no doubt, aimed at rendering more definite what they regarded as vague and indefinite; not considering that this very indefiniteness was a mark of far-seeing wisdom."

"The sacred text merely tells us that an expanded *something* was prepared for the reception of the heavenly bodies. What this *something* is science may find out or not, as it best can. Revelation has nothing to do with that; but it authoritatively declares to us—and this declaration, be it observed, is its sole object—that whatever science *conjectures* it to be, or whatever science *proves* it to be, it was made by God. For its own errors science itself must be answerable, not Scripture."

"Suppose that a hundred and fifty or sixty years ago an ancient and important manuscript had been discovered, in which there was an incidental allusion to light in such a passage as this: 'The light impinged on the surface'; and suppose that a translator of the day had rendered this passage thus: 'The particles of light impinged on the surface,' which, as a Newtonian, he would have been very likely to do:—would a critic of the present time be justified in affirming, on the strength of this translation, that the original writer was an advocate of the corpuscular theory of light? Is it not plain, on the contrary, that the original passage conveys not the slightest hint of any physical theory whatever? And as little of physical theory or physical fact is there in the Mosaic account of the firmament."

"What scientific objectors have to prove is, not that the firmament is solid or unsolid, air or ether; but that it is *not* an expanse; that it is *not* something extended; that it is *not* something diffused or 'spread out.' When this is done, science may justly claim, in this particular, a triumph over Scripture; but assuredly not before; since about the physical constitution of the firmament Scripture tells us no more than it does about the physical constitution of the sun and moon, which is just *nothing*. Science, it is true, has enlightened us a little upon this matter, and the sole object of the remarks made above, upon the old word 'firmament,' is to show that, notwithstanding our modern knowledge of the thing itself, that term may still be applied to it, without that violation of scientific propriety which has been alleged."

The fourth section is on miracles; and is chiefly noticeable for the distinctness with which it marks and defends its few simple positions, on questions much confused; for instance, the physical difficulties to miracles, although miracles imply in their nature something which physical science, on its own principles, can have nothing to say either for or against,—and, on the naturally impossible and supernaturally impossible, and the distinction of a miracle relatively to these, as to which we extract a few sentences.

"Inherent impossibility cannot be comprehended among the 'all things possible with God.' He cannot act and forbear to act in one and the same instant. He cannot affirm and deny in one and the same utterance. Omnipotence cannot make the three angles of a plane triangle to amount to more or less than two right angles, simply because the existence of a triangle necessarily implies the existence of this property. To affirm that the angles of a plane figure amount to more or less than two right angles, is at the same time to affirm that the figure is not a triangle. And equally true is it that the affirmation that a specified material body is in a specified place, necessarily involves *also* the affirmation that it is *then* nowhere else. What is anywhere else cannot possibly be it, but must be another body."

"There is thus a clear and broad distinction between a miracle and an impossibility. A physical impossibility the former *must* be, else it is not a miracle, and a physical impossibility it *may* be, without any infraction of a physical law. Something that is not Nature's own may be temporarily added, for a special purpose, without anything that is her own being taken away."

"And we think it of some importance to have pointed out and illustrated this distinction. Professor Powell has entirely overlooked it. Throughout his essay, his mind has been dwelling exclusively upon the supernaturally impossible, not at all upon miracles: how else could he have adduced, in a controversy concerning miracles, the supernaturally impossible instance of two and two being five? There is a precisely similar barrier between the supernaturally possible and the supernaturally impossible, as there is between the physically possible and the physically impossible."

Though conscious that this notice is already too greatly extended, we shall add a brief passage on Hume's argument against miracles, which will perhaps bring forcibly before some of our readers a very important order of evidence with which they are little familiar.

"The position of Hume, in his Essay on Miracles, amounts to this, namely:—That no amount of human testimony *for*, can counterbalance the weight attached to the uniform experience of mankind *against* a departure from the course of nature. This position, as it does not go the length of openly assuming a departure from the course of nature to be impossible, can be grappled with and examined upon mathematical principles. It has been so examined, and the two following propositions have been rigorously demonstrated:—

"1. If thirteen impostors, or thirteen insane or deluded persons affirm, without collusion, that they were

* *Science Elucidative of Scripture, and not Antagonistic to it. A Series of Essays: by JOHN RADFORD YOUNG, Author of "A Course of Mathematics," &c. London: Lockwood and Co.*

eye-witnesses of a miracle—supposing even that only ten pretended miracles could be invented or suggested to their minds, the probability that they affirm the truth is five times as great as the probability for the constancy of the laws of nature.

"2. If thirteen witnesses, whose veracity is such that they each tell one falsehood in every ten statements they utter, testify, without collusion, to the occurrence of a specified miracle, the probability of the truth of their statement is, as before five times the probability for the constancy of nature.

"The additional datum for the calculation of the probability in each of these cases is this: Assuming with Laplace that the origin of the human race was about 6,000 years ago, and that thirty years is the average duration of a generation, 200 generations must have passed away; and allowing the average population of the earth to have been a thousand millions, we find that there have lived and died since Adam, about two hundred thousand millions of individuals: the experience of all these in favour of the non-occurrence of a miracle is therefore two hundred thousand millions to one. Calculation with this datum shows incontrovertibly, that if only thirteen individuals under the above conditions testify to the occurrence of a miracle, the probability that the miracle did occur is a million millions to one."

The closing section of the work is occupied wholly with the Fixed Stars—their supposed distances and masses. The object is to meet the alleged utter insignificance of this earth, and indeed of the entire solar system; and to show that, on almost any theory, the Scripture statements, where not merely poetical, receive elucidation from astronomical science, and that the latter seems to point, as well as the predictive word, to a final catastrophe, and teaches us reverently to bow before the Great and Glorious Being whose will governs and regulates the mysterious movements of all systems and worlds.

MRS. WOOD'S RECENT NOVELS.*

Has Mrs. Wood no friends who can save her from the sad wreck she is making of the reputation she has won? Some of her earlier works indicated the possession of talents which, though not of the first order, gave her high standing among the novelists of the day. "East Lynne" was no ordinary book, and its authoress was evidently capable of even doing better things. But she is throwing away all her chances, sacrificing all hopes of permanent fame, for the sake of present gain and popularity, and rapidly sinking into a mere novel-producing machine. Here we have six large volumes, published within the last few months, and on every side we meet with announcements of new novels from the too-prolific pen of the author of "East Lynne." It is simply impossible that the quality should be equal to the quantity. This fatal facility of production cannot fail to be attended by a corresponding degeneracy in merit; and is, in fact, often accomplished by the simple process of self-repetition. The old characters and incidents reappear with different names and slight variations of circumstance—the gold there was in the first is beaten out thinner and yet thinner in its successors; and, though the well-known name may still command readers, and so be worth purchasing by publishers, the true power of the writer is thrown away. Mrs. Wood may be quite sure that if she desires her works to live, or even to secure the approval of the intelligent portion of her readers, she must write less and write better. She may be perfectly certain that she is not equal to the performance of feats which proved too difficult even for the master of modern fiction. Of course, if she is content simply to reap the present gains it is not for anyone to interfere. She will have her own reward, and we can promise her that it will be the consignment of her works to an early oblivion. Ere long, even proprietors of magazines will find that it has ceased to be a charm to conjure with, and the editors of the *Cornhill* and the *Quiver* will no more compete for favours that have lost their value.

"Mrs. Halliburton's Troubles" is the worst book that Mrs. Wood has produced. It is so dull and tedious that it is no slight work to wade through it, indeed, we question whether the task has been accomplished by any save those old-fashioned drones, who, in their conscientious dullness, deem it their duty to spell through every word of any book they undertake to read. The majority will omit the episodic accounts of the lace-manufacturers, the somewhat prosy and irrelevant conversations about the workpeople, and the very feeble moralising, which is interspersed through the whole, and try to cull out the story to which these digressions are designed to impart something of a serious and profitable character. The story itself, however, is little duller than the dissertations on social and ethical philosophy that serve as its "padding." It is nothing more or less than a revised and not improved edition of the "Channings," and

whatever the merit of the original, it was not to be expected that it could be preserved in a copy. "Bis crambe repetita" is a dish which requires careful seasoning if it is to be made at all palatable. To the moral of the tale we take strong exceptions. To represent a family of well-trained and obedient children as attaining all sorts of worldly distinction and success as the fruit of their own exertion and goodness, is the old device of moralising novelists, but such views of life are as mischievous as they are untrue. This mode of dealing with characters is very aptly styled "poetic justice," apparently because there are so few examples of such very pleasant results in real life. It is surely a far better and truer lesson to teach that the virtue which finds no present reward, which dooms its follower to disappointment, self-sacrifice, and loss, and which so far as the world's estimate of success is concerned, makes his life a failure, has in itself a preciousness which wealth can do little to enhance, a nobility which no title can bestow, and a living power, a lasting blessedness, independent of all the accessories of fortune. The truth which these preachers who ring the changes on the proverb, "Honesty is the best policy," forget is one which our Lord taught alike by words and example, that "Man does not live by bread alone." There is none which this age is so likely to ignore—it worships success and is content to take it as the measure of power and the test of goodness. The spirit is one which needs to be rebuked rather than encouraged, and we regret, therefore, to find Mrs. Wood fostering it and neglecting other and more salutary lessons.

"Verner's Pride" is a much abler book. The plot, indeed, is often complicated and always improbable—there is too much craving for "sensation" and effect—some parts of the story have little or no relation to the general result, the tale is altogether too long and drags its slow length along, long after the interest is gone. Still there is more of novelty and of life about it than its companion. Jan is a new and striking, if somewhat unreal character—the Mormon preacher is out of place, but his portrait, as well as that of his miserable dupe, Mrs. Peckaby, who waited in such implicit faith for the white donkey that was to take her to the "New Jerusalem," is well-drawn—there are clever touches in the sketches of the haughty Lady Verner and of the rough and selfish Australian John Massingbird, while the escapades of Master Cheese are exceedingly entertaining and stand out in strong contrast with the dull sobriety and economy of the poor old maids who had the hard task of providing for his domestic comfort. But these excellences hardly atone for the real defects of the book. The incidents are as grossly improbable as any we have met in any work of fiction for a long time, and among the characters there is hardly one for whom we can cherish a feeling of ordinary respect. The hero engages himself to a silly, extravagant, heartless flirt the very day that he had virtually committed himself to a girl who is represented as the embodiment of all beauty and virtue, and whose only fault is her excessive devotion to the very foolish and very impulsive young man. He marries the former, though fully conscious that his love belongs to the latter, and much of the interest of the tale depends on the awkward position in which all parties are thus placed. Much as we dislike the wife, we confess that we cannot but feel some sympathy for her, and the feeling would be deeper were it not soon manifest that she also had married one for whom she had not the slightest affection. We fancied, at one time, that we were to have the repetition of the East Lynne incident, and the hero married to two wives at once. Happily we were saved from that—he only cherishes an attachment to another while his first wife is still alive. The singular penchant so many of our lady novelists display for complications of this character we cannot understand. We hope that they are not frequent in real life, and we are sure that their introduction in works of fiction can only do mischief. They inculcate no useful truth, and can serve no good purpose. Surely there are other fields to be cultivated that would yield a harvest as abundant and more wholesome. Let Mrs. Wood seek out some of these—let her devote more thought and toil to her work—let her try to paint some female character whose virtue shall not be so insipid as to weary rather than attract (surely in her circle of acquaintance she must have some who would serve as good models for such portraits)—let not the flatteries of friends or the eager solicitations of "enterprising publishers" induce her to undertake work beyond her power, or, indeed, those of any other writer, and, especially, let her show more regard to the proprieties of life, and she may still regain the ground she has lost.

Both these works have suffered from the form in which they were originally produced. The republication as separate novels of tales that

have originally appeared in monthly fragments in the pages of a magazine appears to us generally a mistake. The character and design of the periodical and the three-volume novel are so different, that success in the one must generally be purchased by the sacrifice of the other. Mrs. Wood, we are satisfied, would have been more condensed, more careful, and less episodic if she had not been required to meet the demands of the monthly magazine. Perhaps it would be too much to suppose that the portions of the tales were written as required, and yet there are defects which we can explain on no other hypothesis. In "Verner's Pride," particularly, characters and incidents are introduced which seem to promise much but really lead to nothing. The crafty doings of the Mormon preacher appear to have been originally intended to exercise some influence on the *denouement*, but, as it is, they are a mere bye-plot, without the slightest relation to the main story, and the closing scenes are brought in most awkwardly, and in such a way as to weary the patience of the reader. Both in this case and in that of *Luke Roy* Mrs. Wood seems to have departed from her original plan, and has thus, probably, diminished the artistic merit of her book. It must certainly be somewhat hard to keep two or three tales going on at once without sometimes falling into such mistakes. If, however, the novels are to be reissued, the least that can be expected is a careful revision, which shall remove such excrescences, and give to the whole more condensation and unity.

BRIEF NOTICES.

God's Glory in the Heavens. By W. LEITCH, D.D., Principal of Queen's College, Canada University. (Alex. Strahan and Co.) This is the most delightful popular work on Astronomy that is known to us; and may be read for its sketches of the progress and results of astronomical research, or for its contributions to a special department of natural theology, and will, in either case, be accepted as the satisfying work of an accomplished writer, who has singular clearness in the conveyance of scientific facts and speculations to minds of ordinary culture. Some of the chapters have appeared in *Good Words*; their subjects were selected "without regard to system"; and the aim has been to present a survey of the most remarkable and interesting fruits of recent discovery, and "to meet in some measure, the felt necessity of a better adjustment between the arguments of the theologian and the facts and speculations of the astronomer." Amongst the chapters that have greatest attractiveness by their novelty are those on Lunar Landscape, the Uses of the Moon, the Chemistry of the Sun, the Structure of Comets, and Stellar Grouping. Others, having a narrative character, which bring the processes of astronomical research vividly before the mind, and give some conception of the perfection of this science as compared with the incompleteness of other sciences, are those on the discovery of the new planet Vulcan, the Observatory, and Astronomy in America. And there is no forgetfulness of the great questions that lie in the background of all observation, quickened ever anew by progress in discovery, such as the Nebular Hypothesis, the Stability of the Solar System, the Eternity of Matter, and the Plurality of Worlds. There is a fascination about these subjects which Dr. Leitch has felt, while at the same time regarding them with a soundness of mind, sobriety of judgment, and reverent faith, which have greatly served the instruction and edification of his readers. It is to be noticed with strong approval, that Dr. Leitch has added to his eloquent expositions a series of synoptical tables, which give a condensed summary of the principal facts of astronomy, and which fit the book for the use of those who are really students, without encumbering the text which addresses readers of all varieties of culture. It is certainly one of the best books of its class that has appeared in our time; and is very admirably illustrated, and elegantly printed and bound.—*Manxland: a Tale.* With an Introductory Sketch of Manx Home Missions. By B. STOWELL. (Nisbet and Co.) We like this book; though its contents hardly deserve so broad a title, in respect of either its first or second half. The first is simply a sketch of the operations, scenes of labour, and aims of the Episcopal Home Missions in the Isle of Man; and the second is a tale, of which we cannot say much as a piece of fiction, but which brings out some of the features of scenery and social life in the island, and illustrates what has been done by the mission which the book is intended to serve. There are several pretty woodcut illustrations. The spirit of the book is good; and Church of England visitors to Manxland should not neglect to make acquaintance with it, while Christians of other churches can rejoice in all its records of the progress of the One Work in the lovely island.—*Pattie Durant; a Tale of 1662.* By CYCLO, Author of "Aunt Dorothy's Will," &c. London: Virtue Brothers and Co.) Although this little book is too late in making its appearance to be classed with the literature of the Bicentenary, it appears to us more likely to be useful in promoting Nonconformity among a numerous class of readers than anything that year has produced. It contains little to excite the prejudices of the most fastidious Churchman. Dissenting principles are never

* *Mrs. Halliburton's Troubles.* By Mrs. H. WOOD. Three Vols. London: Richard Bentley.
Verner's Pride. By Mrs. H. WOOD. Three Vols. Bradbury and Evans.

offensively obtruded. It is free from that rabid desire to proselytise which often distinguishes the controversial novel. Yet the prominent reasons for Nonconformity are plainly, though inoffensively presented. And its delineations of the heroic character, the sufferings and self-denial of our ecclesiastical ancestors, cannot fail to elicit for them the sympathy and admiration of the reader. We trust it may speedily find a place on the table of many Dissenting households. Its extensive perusal by the younger members would do much to commend to them the faith of their fathers, and to counteract the tendency to Conformity among the wealthier classes—a tendency which, though it may in some instances purify the churches, as Dr. Anderson says, by ridding them of their scum, is in others owing mainly to the manner in which, in many of our families, our principles are ignored, or treated as questions of minor importance. On other grounds it is equally worthy of commendation. In youthful readers it is admirably adapted to produce religious impressions, and strengthen them where they already exist. We cordially wish for it a very extensive circulation.—*Village Dialogues*. By the Rev. ROWLAND HILL, A.M. (London: W. Tegg.) This well-known book keeps its hold on a public of its own in a very remarkable manner. This is the thirty-eighth edition; and is everything that could be desired for such a popular work.—*Proceedings of the International Temperance and Prohibition Convention held in London, September, 1862*. Edited by Rev. J. C. STREET, Dr. F. R. LEES, and Rev. D. BURNS. (London: Caudwell.) This is a volume which is indispensable to Temperance and Permissive Bill advocates; and which, whether the policy of the United Kingdom Alliance be accepted or no, may be of great service, in the diffusion of information, in the presentation of general statistics, and in the disclosure of special facts, to all philanthropists desiring the abatement of the drinking abuses that so widely and lamentably prevail. Papers by competent persons on the historical and biographical, educational and religious, social and sanitary, scientific and medical, economical and statistical, political and legislative aspects of the subject will be found here; together with the proceedings of the Convention, and sermons, and public addresses.

Miscellaneous News.

THE ST. GILES'S MURDER.—The inquest on the victim of the frightful murder in St. Giles's terminated on Friday in a verdict of "wilful murder against some person unknown." Notwithstanding the assertions of the police as to their professed "clue," they appear to be quite at sea as to the perpetrator of the murder.

THE ALEXANDRA STEAMER.—This vessel has been exchequered, and we understand that Messrs. Fawcett, Preston, and Co., her owners, and Messrs. Miller, her builders, will probably in a few days be summoned before the local magistrates on the charge of designing to infringe the Foreign Enlistment Act. Messrs. Fletcher and Hall, solicitors for the defendants, having applied to the Mayor of Liverpool for an inspection of the depositions, were informed by the Town-clerk that he was instructed by Mr. Waddington, of the Home-office, that the law-officers of the Crown advised that the application ought not to be complied with.—*Times*.

SUICIDE FROM ENNUY.—One day last week a law student at the University of Göttingen blew out his brains with a horse-pistol. The preceding day he had passed in the society of his friends and acquaintances without showing the least trace of anything unusual in his behaviour. He had, in company with some colleagues, on the evening before his suicide, visited the theatre to hear an actor from the court of Hanover in the rôle of "Faust." On the following morning he was found dead on the sofa with two pistols in his hands, one of which was still loaded. The other he had evidently fired into his mouth. On the table before him lay a sealed envelope, with the following address:—"To all those who wish to know why I have shot myself." On opening the letter there were found the words—"From ennui."

FEDERAL CRUISERS AND BRITISH SHIPS.—On Thursday a deputation of shippers connected with the Mexican trade waited upon Earl Russell to elicit from him an assurance of protection for the steamship *Sea Queen*, belonging to Pile, Spence, and Co., and now detained because the owners will not put to sea to risk her capture. She has on board her Majesty's mails, and other cargo, the owners of which are urging the proprietors of the ship at once to proceed on the voyage to Matamoros, and fulfil their contract. The merchants are ready to fulfil all legal formalities, and prove the legitimate nature of the voyage, and suggested that the Government should send a mail agent on board the ship. Earl Russell promised to consider the suggestion. In the course of the interview it was shown that Mr. Adams, the American Minister, had given a special license to a ship sailing for Matamoros with arms and ammunition for the Mexicans. This disclosure has caused considerable sensation in the City.

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.—The Mansion-house Committee for the relief of distress in Lancashire have at last resolved to apply a portion of the funds entrusted to them in assisting emigration. A meeting of the committee was held at the Mansion-house yesterday, when a deputation from a society of gentlemen newly formed for that purpose, headed by Mr. Childers, M.P., waited on the committee,

laid their plans before them, and solicited assistance. The committee, after some deliberation, resolved to set apart 5,000*l.* of their funds to assist the unemployed to emigrate, and placed 1,000*l.* of this sum at the disposal of the society represented by Mr. Childers.—At the meeting of the Manchester Central Committee, on Monday, it was stated that the total receipts of the past week amounted to 5,234*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, and the total balance in the hands of the bankers was now 406,249*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, including the New South Wales Fund. Mr. Commissioner Farnall, in his weekly report, stated that on the week ending the 11th, there was a decrease in the number of persons receiving parochial relief in the twenty-seven unions in the cotton-manufacturing districts, as compared with the number so relieved in the previous week, of 2,806.

MR. GLADSTONE AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—A meeting of Conservative electors of the University of Oxford was to take place yesterday at St. John's College for the purpose of considering the propriety of taking measures in connexion with the choice of a member at the next general election. The speech delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday on Sir Morton Peto's Burial Bill appears to have given great offence to the right hon. gentleman's constituents, who make no secret of their intention to attempt to displace him. Sir Stafford Northcote, who was formerly his private secretary, is named as his opponent, but the party do not at present appear to be unanimous with regard to their choice, as some are in favour of Lord Robert Cecil, while others support the claims of Dr. Marsham, Warden of Merton College, and Lord Chelsea. [It is now said that the above statement is a hoax.]

LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM, CLAPTON.—The jubilee commemoration festival of this charity took place on Wednesday evening at the Merchant Taylors' hall, under the presidency of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. His Royal Highness was supported by Lord Ebury, Colonel North, M.P., Mr. Alderman Salomons, and by many members of the Court of the Merchant Taylors' Company, and 271 gentlemen sat down to dinner. The managers propose to celebrate the year of jubilee by admitting 100 orphans to the benefits of the charity during the year, and as each child remains for an average period of six years the extra cost to the charity for maintenance and providing the increased accommodation will amount to nearly 10,000*l.* Towards this object the friends of the institution and the public subscribed on Wednesday evening the unprecedented sum of 7,600*l.*, including 920*l.* from old scholars, and the managers seem sanguine that long before the amount is required it will be duly forthcoming. The proceedings of the evening were of the most enthusiastic character, and the particulars of the contributions, we understand, are to be duly advertised.

Gleanings.

So great was the interest to hear the financial statement on Thursday, that some persons who had obtained orders for the gallery of the House of Commons were in attendance at half-past seven in the morning. At ten there were more persons waiting than could obtain admission. It seems that persons having orders hire men to represent them during this long wait, the fee ranging from half-a-crown to half-a-guinea.

ALREADY INSURED.—The Hon. E. Percy, cousin of the Bishop of Carlisle (Georgian era), was airing himself at the door of White's Club, in Pall-mall, when a meek-looking man walked demurely up to him, and, with a sickly smile, offered him a pious tract. Percy drew himself up loftily, and exclaimed with indignation, "How dare you, sir? Do you know that I am first cousin to a bishop?" He thought in virtue of the relationship he was entitled to the *entrée* of the first circles in the next world as well as in this, and laughed to scorn the idea of his requiring such subsidiary aids to admission as a devotional tract.

WHAT IS AN ARCHDEACON?—Lord Althorp, when Chancellor of the Exchequer, having to propose to the House of Commons, a vote of 400*l.* a year for the salary of the Archdeacon of Bengal, was puzzled by a question from Mr. Hume, "What are the duties of an Archdeacon?" So he sent one of the subordinate occupants of the Treasury Bench to the other House, to obtain an answer to the question from one of the Bishops. The messenger first met with Archbishop Vernon Harcourt, who described an Archdeacon as "*aide-de-camp* to the Bishop"; and then with Bishop Copleston, of Llandaff, who said, "the Archdeacon is *oculus Episcopi*." Lord Althorp, however, declared that neither of these explanations would satisfy the House. "Go," said he, "and ask the Bishop of London; he is a straightforward man, and will give you a plain answer. To the Bishop of London accordingly the messenger went, and repeated the question, "What is an Archdeacon?"—"An Archdeacon?" replied the Bishop in his quick way, "an Archdeacon is an ecclesiastical officer, who performs archidiaconal functions"; and with this reply Lord Althorp and the House were perfectly satisfied.—*Life of Bishop Blomfield*.

AMERICAN DINNER PARTIES.—The latest bit of up-town fashionable news is the exceeding sumptuousness of two successive dinner parties given to two betrothed ladies by a wealthy bachelor of their acquaintance, each party numbering about twenty persons, and the latter one including General and Mrs. McClellan among its guests. One very expensive and exquisite difference from ordinary parties consisted in the novel furnishing of the table.

It was oval-shaped, but with the white cloth only circling its outer rim, the whole interior being an exquisitely arranged parterre, filled with baskets of the most costly and sumptuous flowers set in wet sawdust and moss, and the air being thus laden with fragrance, while the dinner was handed round in a dainty succession of choice dishes, according to the beautifully printed *carte* distributed to all. At the close of the dinner each lady-guest took, as a present from the host, one of the costly and superb baskets of flowers which had ornamented the centre of the table.—*New York Home Journal*.

THE PRESIDENT'S LAST JOKE.—Recently, Secretary Chase, of the Treasury Department, found upon a desk in his office what at first appeared to be a picture of an "infernal machine," looking very much like a goose, but which on closer examination proved to be a drawing of an ingenious invention for turning gold eagles into "green-backs," with the Secretary himself operating it, and slowly feeding it with "yaller boys" at one end, while the Government currency came out at the other end, flying about like the leaves of autumn. While he was examining it, the President came in, as he daily does, for consultation. Mr. Chase handed him the drawing, and as the roguish eye of our chief magistrate recognised the likeness of the Secretary, he exclaimed, "Capital joke, isn't it, Mr. Chase?" "A joke!" said the irate financier; "I'd give a thousand dollars to know who left it here." "Oh, no," responded Mr. Lincoln, "you would hardly do that." "Yes, I would," asserted the Secretary. "Would you, though?" inquired the President, with that deliberate manner which characterises him when he is really in earnest, "well, which end would you pay from?" The answer is not recorded.—*New York Paper*.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

MULLENS.—March 21, at Charlton-villa, Grange-road, Canonbury, Mrs. Richard Mullens, of a daughter.

WHIBLEY.—April 20, at Gravesend, the wife of Mr. A. Whibley, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

MINCHALL—MACKENZIE.—Jan. 26, by special license, at the residence of Mr. Alexander Brown, of St. Andrew's-street, Balmain, by the Rev. Thos. Johnson, Congregational minister, Bourke-street, Sidney, Wm. Minchall, of London, to Sarah, second daughter of Mr. Thomas Mackenzie, Happy Valley, Balmain.

WALLS—HARCHER.—April 11, at St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigan, by Rev. W. Roaf, Mr. Jos. Walls, to Miss Harcher, both of Hindley.

MAGGS—DARKE.—April 13, by license, at the Independent Chapel, Clutton, near Bristol, Mr. Maggs, to Miss Darke; in the unavoidable absence of the minister, the Rev. G. Nettleship, by the student, who supplied his lack of service.

ROPER—SMITH.—April 14, at the Baptist Chapel, Pellon-lane, Halifax, by the Rev. T. Michael, Mr. Benj. Roper, to Miss Eliza Smith, both of Halifax.

ARMITAGE—EVANS.—April 14, at Ebenezer Chapel, Scarbro', by the father of the bride, Samuel, eldest son of Mr. George Armitage, of Bradford, to Sarah Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. Benj. Evans, D.D., of Scarbro'.

FINDLOW—MORGAN.—April 14, at Grosvenor-street Chapel, Piccadilly, by the Rev. P. Thomson, M.A., Mr. Joseph Findlow, to Annie, second daughter of Mr. Ebenezer Morgan, Plymouth-square, Longsight.

MORRISH—WILMOT.—April 15, at Paddington Chapel, by the Rev. H. B. Ingram, Mr. Morrish, of Paddington, to Miss Wilmot.

GOODMAN—GARLAND.—April 15, at Union Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. Henry Allon, Henry Goodman, Esq., of St. Ives, Huntingdonshire, to Ada Hannah, daughter of Charles Fox Garland, Esq. No cards.

YEW DALL—JONES.—April 15, at Baillie-street Chapel, Rochdale, John Cliff, second son of David Yewdall, Esq., of Calverley Grange, near Leeds, to Anne, second daughter of Mr. Ellis Jones, Castle-mere, Rochdale. No cards.

BENTON—WRIGHT.—April 15, at the Congregational Church, Erdington, Birmingham, by the Rev. Henry John Heathcote, Mr. Joseph Benton, to Betsey, second daughter of Mr. George Wright, all of the same place.

SOUTHCOMBE—HEBDITCH.—April 16, at the Baptist Chapel, Montacute, by the Rev. Joseph Price, assisted by the Rev. Samuel Hebditch, uncle of the bride, Richard Southcombe, Esq., to Mary Jane, only daughter of the late Joseph Hebditch, Esq., of Stoke-sub-Hamdon. No cards.

PEARSON—MACJUNES.—April 16, at 10, Barns-terrace, Ayr, by the Rev. R. M. MacJunes, Mr. George Pearson, stationer, Glasgow, to Margaret Sowers, eldest daughter of the late John MacJunes, merchant, Glasgow. No cards.

ABBOTT—BRADSHAW.—April 16, at London-road Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. R. W. McAll, Mr. John Wm. Abbott, to Miss Louisa Bradshaw.

SMITH—MERRY.—April 16, at Union Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. Henry Allon, Edward Smith, Esq., of Belmont-villa, Green-lanes, Stoke Newington (late of Sydenham), to Clara Sarah, youngest daughter of Thomas Merry, Esq. Jun., of Rutland-villa, Highbury New-park. No cards.

RICKARD—TUCKER.—April 17, at the Congregational Chapel, Bridgwater, by the Rev. Edward H. Jones, Mr. John Rickard, of Wetherwell, Hants, to Miss Anna Tucker, of Middlesoy.

GILLARD—GEEN.—April 18, at the Congregational Chapel, Bridgwater, by the Rev. Edward H. Jones, Mr. James Gillard, to Miss Maria Fisher Geen, of Catcott.

PRICE—FRANCES.—April 19, at the Independent Chapel, Chepstow, by the Rev. T. Rees, William Price, to Elizabeth Frances, both of Tutal, near Chepstow.

JONES—LIGHT.—Recently, at the Independent Chapel, Chepstow, by the Rev. T. Rees, George Jones, to Mary Ann Light, both of Abbey Tintern.

DEATHS.

MORRIS.—Feb. 25, at the London Mission House, Coimbatour, Martha Jane, infant daughter of the Rev. W. E. Morris.

PLIMSOLL.—April 6, at the house of her son, S. Plimsoll, Esq., 9, Harrington-square, Priscilla, the widow of the late T. Plimsoll, Esq., supervisor of the Excise, and was interred at Highgate Cemetery on the 13th. The funeral ceremony was read by her son-in-law, the Rev. Dr. Falding, President of Rotherham College, and a short address was delivered at the grave by the Rev. G. Nettleship, of Clutton, near Bristol, the former pastor of the deceased.

ANDREWS.—April 7, at his residence, Stuart Lodge, Hill-martin-villas, Camden-road, Holloway, George Andrews, Esq., aged fifty-five.

HOWLETT.—April 8, at Birmingham, the Rev. Benjamin Howlett, aged seventy-two, for sixteen years pastor of the church at Burford, Oxon, and for four years pastor of the church at Middleton Cheney, near Banbury.

STANCOMB.—April 9, at Trowbridge, Margaret, relict of the late W. Stancomb, Esq., J.P. for the county of Wilts, aged eighty-two.

WESTHROP.—April 13, at the residence of her son, Major House, Poplar, Mrs. Elizabeth Westhrop, in her ninetieth year.

WEBB.—April 17, at Forest-hill, Joseph Ernest, the infant son of Mr. Joseph R. Webb, aged eight months and eighteen days.

GILKES.—April 17, at Steward-street, Spitalfields, Gilbert Gilkes, in his fifty-seventh year. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

PELLATT.—April 17, at Balham, the residence of his brother-in-law, Joshua Field, Esq., Apsley Pellatt, Esq., of Staines, Middlesex, and of Stanbridge, Staplefield, Sussex, in his seventy-second year.

MUMMERY.—April 18, at Surbiton, Surrey, Mr. William Stephen Mummery, aged fifty-two. He was for several years a deacon of the Independent Church at Kingston. "He sleeps in Jesus and is blest."

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, April 15.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£29,049,225	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,634,900
		Gold Bullion	14,399,225
		Silver Bullion	—
	£29,049,225		£29,049,225

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£11,129,445
Reserve	3,094,427	Other Securities ..	18,748,232
Public Deposits ..	5,769,276	Notes	8,342,445
Other Deposits ..	15,013,391	Gold & Silver Coin	830,012
Seven Day and other Bills	620,040		
	£39,050,134		£39,050,134

April 16, 1863.

W. MILLER, Deputy Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—UNSEEMLY ERUPTIONS.—No means heretofore discovered are so competent to cope with and conquer all blemishes, boils, eruptions, redness, and roughness of the skin as these celebrated medicaments, which to be praised need only to be known. Holloway's remedies cool the system, regulate the circulation, and so thoroughly purify the whole body, that whatever is hurtful must inevitably be swept away, and succeeded by healthy structures, which alone can be derived from rich and pure blood. The cosmetic virtues of this unguent have been long appreciated; no toilet table is well appointed which lacks its presence; it soothes and cleanses the most fine and tender skins, and when assisted by Holloway's Pills, is the most valuable beautifier.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, April 20.

Though with only a very moderate supply of English wheat this morning, the trade ruled extremely dull, and even the finest samples with difficulty made last Monday's prices; but the inferior sorts were quite neglected. In foreign only a limited business was done, and at last week's prices. The flour trade was also very heavy. Barley, beans, and peas, each met a slow sale, but prices were without alteration. In addition to the large arrival of foreign oats noted in the return, about 40,000 qrs of which were from Swedish ports, a great many vessels are reporting to-day. The trade for this article to-day was hardly so good as on Wednesday and Friday last, but at about the rates of this day week there was a fair business done.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7½d to 8d; household ditto, 5½d to 7d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, April 20.

There was only a moderate supply of foreign stock on offer in our market to-day, and its general quality was very middling. Sales progressed slowly, and in some instances the quotations had a drooping tendency. For the time of year the arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, was good, and in full average condition. The attendance of buyers was moderately extensive; nevertheless, owing, in some measure, to the decline in the value of rough fat to 2s 2½d per 8lbs, the beef trade was in a very inactive state. The best Scotch and crosses realised prices about equal to Monday last; but other breeds moved off heavily, and in a few instances prices gave way 2d per 8lbs; the top figure was 4s 8d per 8lbs. The receipts from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire comprised 2,200 Scotch, shorthorns, and crosses; from other parts of England, 800 various breeds; from Scotland, 600 Scotch and crosses. There were no fresh arrivals from Ireland. We were fairly supplied with sheep in the pens, the quality of which was good and prime. All breeds moved off heavily, especially Lancashire and Leicesters, which were a shade lower. Otherwise, no change took place in the quotations. The best Downs in the wool realised 5s 8d, out of the wool 4s 8d; prime half-breeds, shorn, 4s 6d; Lincoln and Leicesters 4s to 4s 4d; in some instances, 4s 6d per 8lbs. The supply of lambs was moderate. Good and prime breeds moved off freely at enhanced rates, and other qualities ruled firm in price. The quotations ranged from 6s 3d to 8s per 8lbs. The veal trade was heavy, at 4d per 8lbs less money; and the pork trade was in a dull state, on easier terms.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts.	3 2 to 3 4	Prime Southdown	5 6 to 5 8
Second quality	3 8 to 3 10	Lambs	6 8 to 8 0
Prime large oxen	4 0 to 4 4	Lge. coarse calves	3 10 to 4 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 6 to 4 8	Prime small	3 8 to 5 0
Coarse inf. sheep	3 6 to 3 10	Large hogs	3 6 to 4 2
Second quality	4 0 to 4 6	Neat sm. porkers	4 2 to 4 6
Pr. coarse woolled	4 8 to 5 4		

Buckling calves, 12s to 19s. Quarter-old store pigs, 20s to 29s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, April 20.

Fair average supplies of town and country-killed meat are on sale at these markets. In all descriptions sales progress slowly, at the recent fall in the currency.

Per 8lbs by the carcass.

s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	2 8 to 3 0	Small pork	4 2 to 4 6
Middling ditto	3 2 to 3 6	Inf. mutton	3 2 to 3 6
Prime large do.	3 8 to 3 10	Middling ditto	3 8 to 4 0
Do. small do.	4 0 to 4 2	Prime ditto	4 2 to 4 4
Large pork	3 6 to 4 0	Veal	4 2 to 4 8

Lamb 6s 6d to 6s 8d.

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, April 21.

TEA.—There has been a very limited amount of business transacted in this market to-day for all descriptions, as large quantities are announced for competition at the public sales. Previous quotations, however, are generally well maintained.

SUGAR.—There has been a moderately active demand for the better qualities in this market, and late prices have been maintained. For refined descriptions there is no variation to be noticed in prices.

COFFEE.—The amount of business recorded in this market has been to a moderate extent, both for Plantation and Native Ceylon, and the late advance in prices has been fully sustained for good descriptions.

RICE.—For the better descriptions of East India there has

been a rather more active inquiry, but without much business, and late prices are fully maintained.

SALTPETRE.—The amount of business transacted has been to a fair extent, and quotations are without change.

PROVISIONS, Monday, April 20.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 345 firkins butter, and 3,207 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 10,901 casks butter, and 334 bales and 1,891 boxes of bacon. In the Irish butter market the transactions continue quite of a retail character. Foreign met a steady sale, without change in price. Best Dutch 10½d to 10½d. The bacon market ruled dull, and but a limited amount of business was transacted. Prices were the turn in favour of the buyer.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, April 20.—For the time of year, these markets are extensively supplied with home-grown potatoes. The imports last week were moderate for the time of year, and amounted to 104 sacks from Rouen, 215 tons from Dunkirk, 138 tons from Brussels, 95 tons Louvain, and 1 bag from Calais. The trade for all qualities rule quiet, yet very little change has taken place in prices compared with Monday last. Yorkshire Regents 100s to 120s, Yorkshire Flukes 130s to 150s, Yorkshire Rocks 90s to 100s, Yorkshire Seedlings 100s to 110s, Kent and Essex Regents 120s to 130s, Scotch Regents 80s to 110s, Scotch Rocks 80s to 90s, Scotch Reds 70s to 80s, Foreign 50s to 60s per ton.

WOOL, Monday, April 20.—The public sales of colonial wool being advertised to commence on the 30th instant, and the trade for the continent being very inactive, has operated seriously against our market, and very little business is doing. We have very little change to notice in the value of any kind of wool since our last report. The supply on offer is seasonably large.

SEEDS, Monday, April 20.—There has been a smaller demand for seeds during the past week, the season now drawing to a close. Values of all descriptions are without material alteration from the quotations of last week, but with the turn in favour of buyers.

OIL, Monday, April 20.—Rape, cocoanut, and fine palm oils rule steady, at full prices; and the demand for linseed descriptions is firmer, at 43s per cwt on the spot. Olive and fish oils continue heavy, and the quotations are unchanged. French spirits of turpentine have realised 95s per cwt on the spot.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, April 18.—In flax a moderate business is passing, and prices rule firm. Hemp has met but a slow sale; nevertheless, previous rates are supported, and clean Russian is worth 38s to 39s per ton. In jute an improved business is doing, and fine new qualities command 10s per ton more money. The changes in the currency from last week for coir goods are not important.

COALS, Monday, April 20.—Market firm, and without alteration in the rates of last day. South Hetton 17s 6d, Tees 17 3d, Hartley's 15s 3d, Killoe 16s, Riddels 14s 6d, Harton 14s 6d, Wylam 15s 6d, Trimden Thornley 14s 6d, Norton's Anthracite 22s. Fresh arrivals, 104; left from last day, 7.—Total, 111.

TALLOW, Monday, April 20.—The tallow trade is steady, at the improvement realised in prices at the close of last week. To-day St. Petersburg Y.O. is quoted at 47s 9d per cwt on the spot; 43s for June, and 45s 9d for October to December delivery. Town tallow is 41s 6d per cwt net cash. Hough fat is selling at 2s 2½d per 8lbs.

Advertisements.

TEETH!



TEETH!

OSTEO EIDON.

Patent, March 1, 1862. No. 560.

GABRIEL'S self-adhesive patent indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation. One set lasts a lifetime, and warranted for mastication or articulation. Purest material only, at half the usual cost.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS

(Diploma, 1815).

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;
31, LUDGATE-HILL, LONDON;
134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Consultations gratis. For an explanation of their various improvements, opinions of the press, testimonials, &c., see "Gabriel's Practical Treatise on the Teeth." Post free on application.

Entrance to the City Establishment, over Benson's, the Silversmith's.

* One visit only required from Country Patients

TEETH.—Messrs. LEWIN MOSELEY, and SONS' system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY, as shown and specially commended at the International Exhibition, Class 17, No. 3,556. Teeth from 5s. Sets from five guineas.—30, BERNERS-STREET, Oxford-street, W. For the efficacy and success of this system vide "Lancet."

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

* Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSS and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN, as used in Princess Alexandra's Bridal Boudoir, forms an elegant adjunct to the Drawing-room, Ball-room, Supper-table, &c. Price from 1l. 10s.
96, Strand, and 24, Cornhill.

CAPTAIN WHITE'S ORIENTAL PICKLE,

CURRY or MULLIGATAWNY PASTE,

Curry Powder, and Curry Sauce, may be obtained from all Sauce Vendors, and wholesale of
CROSSE and BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO-SQUARE, LONDON.

IF THIS SHOULD MEET THE EYE

of any one troubled with Wind in the Stomach, Indigestion, or Biliousness, take Page Woodcock's WIND PILLS. Eleven years of success have proved them of sterling merit. Of all Medicine Vendors at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 6d.; or free by post for fourteen or thirty-three stamps from PAGE D. WOOD COCK, Chemist, Lincoln.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!

GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing super-

fluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This great disfigurement of female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Beware of Counterfeits.

BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLING-

WATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

QUININE.—THE MEDICAL PROFES-

SION.—The LANCET.—Dr. Hassall and others recommend "WATER'S QUININE WINE" as an excellent and simple stimulant. Manufactured only by ROBERT WATERS, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London, E.C. Sold by grocers, Italian warehousemen, and others, at 30s. a dozen. Wholesale Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA

has been, during twenty-five years, emphatically sanctioned by the Medical Profession, and universally accepted by the Public, as the best remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion, and as a Mild Aperient for delicate constitutions, more especially for Ladies and Children. When combined with the Acidulated Lemon Syrup, it forms an agreeable effervescent draught, in which its Aperient qualities are much increased. During Hot Seasons, and in Hot Climates, the regular use of this simple and elegant remedy has been found highly beneficial.

It is prepared (in a state of perfect purity and of uniform strength) by DINNEFORD and Co., 172, New Bond-street, London; and sold by all respectable chemists throughout the world.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.—These

Pills cleanse the stomach from bile, correct the functions of the liver and bowels, and purify the blood in so marvellous a manner, that the patient, as it were, becomes a new being. To preserve good health, all should take one dose of

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.

Sold throughout the Empire, in boxes, at 1s. 1½d., 3s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Wholesale Depot, 21, Broad-street, London.

A REAL BLESSING TO MOTHERS.

MRS. JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP, which has been held in such high estimation for so many years, for relieving Children when suffering from painful Dentition, still continues to be prepared according to Mrs. Johnson's Original Recipe, and with the same success, by BASCLAY and SONS, 95, Farringdon-street, whose name and address are engraved on the stopper. Full directions are enclosed with each bottle. Price 2s. 6d.—Be sure to ask for Mrs. JOHNSON'S SOOTHING SYRUP.

ROCHE'S HERBAL EMBROCATION for

the HOOPING COUGH.

This is the only discovery affording a perfect cure without administering internal Medicine, the difficulty and inconvenience of which, in all disorders particularly incident to Children, are too well known to need any comment. The Inventor and Proprietor of this Embrocation can with pleasure and satisfaction declare that its salutary effects have been so universally experienced, and so generally acknowledged, that many of the most eminent of the Faculty now constantly recommend it as the only known safe and perfect cure, without restriction of diet, or use of medicines.

In most cases, one bottle will produce the desired effect. The Proprietor, therefore, earnestly and conscientiously recommends it to Parents, Guardians, and all those who have the care of children.

For the protection of the public, and to prevent imposition, "J. ROCHE" is signed on the Label accompanying each Bottle, and the name of the sole Wholesale Agent, Mr. Edwards, 67, St. Paul's, engraved on the Government Stamp. Price 4s. per Bottle. Sold by most respectable Chemists.

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT

LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer,

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 10s., 15s., 20s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. 1 postage, 1s. 6d.

Price of an Un-bilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage, 1s. 10d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

NEW PATENT

ELASTIC STOCKINGS. KNEE-CAPS, &c.

The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support, in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

John White, Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

HARPER TWELVETREES' DOMESTIC MACHINERY, AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

HEADS of Families, Managers of Public Institutions, Proprietors of Scholastic Establishments and Hotels, Captains of Vessels, Shipping Agents, Emigrants, Landowners, and others, are invited to purchase HARPER TWELVETREES' DOMESTIC MACHINES, which are forwarded carriage free, to the amount of 20s. or upwards, to most railway stations; comprising the following articles of Domestic Utility—viz., Universal Clothes Washer, 21s.; Economical Cider Sifters, 30s., 40s.; Rotary Boot Cleaning Apparatus, 45s.; Rotary Knife and Fork Cleaner, 21s.; Patent Churns, 15s.; Portable Riddling Machine, for Coals, Gravel, Lime, &c., 50s.

HARPER TWELVETREES' PORTABLE INDIA RUBBER CLOTHES WRINGER, price 20s., can be fixed upon any Tub or Washing Machine, and will wring three blankets or six sheets in a minute. Also a large size at 30s. Carriage free to any railway station in the kingdom from the Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

HARPER TWELVETREES' WASHING MACHINE washes all kinds of Linen, Sheets, and Blankets with half the usual labour, string, and soap. Prices, 21s., 45s., 55s., 75s. The same, with wringing and mangling apparatus combined, at 41. 10s., 51. 10s., 71. Also, HARPER TWELVETREES' PERFECT MANGLES, which prevent injury to buttons, at 30s., 40s., 50s., 60s., 70s. Compare the prices! Carriage free from the Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

TESTIMONIALS IN FAVOUR OF THE WASHING MACHINES.

From Mr. R. GREENALL, 24, Marple-street, Charlton-road, Hulme, Manchester.

"Your Washing Machine does its work admirably, and saves very great deal of time and labour."

"April 7th, 1862."

From N. PALMER, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Lowestoft.

"Your Machine should be used in every family. We have tried it several times, and highly approve of it."

"May, 1862."

From Mr. THOMAS KIRK, 63, Howard-street, Coventry.

"Our washerwoman is enthusiastic in praise of the Washing Machine. My wife intends taking it to New Zealand, and is very proud of it."

"September, 1862."

From the Rev. JAMES C. GREEN, Wellow, Isle of Wight.

"We have given the Washing Machine a fair trial—first with hired servants to wash. With them it had no favour, and was pronounced useless. It has since been used for some weeks by members of my own family, who, with the assistance of a female servant, have got through a fortnight's wash by about three o'clock in the day, which used to occupy two days on the old plan. We consider it a great boon to a family."

"August 5th, 1862."

GAS CHEAPENED.

Every consumer of gas in Workshops, Warehouses, Offices, Stables, or Dwelling Houses should adopt

HARPER TWELVETREES' ECONOMISING GAS CAP, which prevents "roaring," and effects a perfect combustion of gas. Free by post from the Manufactory, Bromley-by-Bow, London, for six stamps.—The cost will be saved in one night!

HARPER TWELVETREES' MOUSE and RAT TRAP is always set and always baited. A dozen mice or half a dozen rats may be caught in one night without trouble or attention. Mouse Traps 1s. 6d., Rat Traps 7s. 6d. Order at any shop where Harper Twelvrees' goods are sold, or of any ironmonger. The Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

HARPER TWELVETREES' NEWLY-INVENTED PORTABLE SAWING-MACHINE for joiners, cabinet-makers, model-makers, millwrights, and machinists; saves two-thirds in time and labour. This wonderful machine is exciting extraordinary attention. Several large manufacturers use it as a portable saw-table. Price 81. Patentee, Harper Twelvrees, Bromley-by-Bow, London. Full particulars respecting the above may be obtained by sending a Postage-stamp to Harper Twelvrees, Bromley-by-Bow, London.

HARPER TWELVETREES' GLYCERINE SOAP POWDER is the most popular invention of modern times, and is the only Washing-powder in the world which has secured universal approbation, and triumphantly won its way into every home. It is a complete luxury for washing, is perfectly saponaceous, and possesses remarkable cleansing and nourishing properties. It strengthens, improves and feeds the fabric, and is perfectly harmless to the hands and skin. A week's washing for a small family may be accomplished in a few hours, saving one half of soap, two-thirds of time, and three-fourths of labour. A penny packet will make a pound of capital scouring soap, and the packet may be scolded scores of times without destroying its saponaceous and detergent qualities.

THE PERFECTION OF STARCHING may be attained by using

BRIGGS' AUSTRALIAN SATIN GLAZE STARCH, which is unquestionably the best and cheapest starch now offered, while the elastic stiffness and brilliant finish it imparts are unequalled. Sold by grocers, oilmen, and druggists. Wholesale agent, Harper Twelvrees, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

TESTIMONIALS IN FAVOUR OF BRIGGS' AUSTRALIAN STARCH.

From the Lace Dresser by Appointment to the Queen and H.R.H. the late Duchess of Kent.

"I have used your Starch for a considerable time, and have pleasure in saying that it is the best Starch I have ever used. It surpasses any of the foreign manufactures for giving a most beautiful finish to the most delicate fabrics. For fine laces, &c., it is invaluable."

"ELIZABETH CURLING."

From the Laundress to the Belgian Department of Buckingham Palace.

"I have much pleasure in stating that I have given the Australian Satin Glaze-Starch manufactured by you a fair and impartial trial, and find it far superior to either wheaten, Scotch, or rice starch. I shall continue to use your article, as I find its glazing and stiffening qualities are unequalled by any Starch at present in use."

"A. ALDER."

HAY AND STRAW CHEAPENED!

HARPER TWELVETREES' CATTLE FOOD, for Horses, Cows, Calves, Sheep, and Pigs, goes twice as far as any other, and is more highly seasoned. Sold in Penny Packets by Grocers and Druggists, also in cwt. bags for 30s., carriage paid, from the Mills, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

Ask also for Harper Twelvrees' Indigo Thumb Blue, Laundry Ball Blue; Soluble Powder Blue; and Liquid Indigo Blue; Harper Twelvrees' Baking and Pastry Powder; Eggs and Butter Powder; Genuine Packet Scotch Oatmeal; Furniture Polishing Cream; Metal Polishing Powder; Japan Whiting; Plumbago Black Lead; Government Blauing; Metallic Writing Ink; Liquid Anatto for Cheese Colouring; Mice and Rat Killer; and a variety of Domestic Articles, which may be obtained at most of the shops where "Harper Twelvrees' Glycerine Soap Powder," or "Harper Twelvrees' Washing Machines" are sold.

Patentee: Harper Twelvrees, Bromley-by-Bow, Manufacturer of Washing Machines, Wringers, Mangles, and a variety of Domestic Machines, for particulars of which send for Catalogue

EXCELLENT BLACK TEA, 3s. 4d. PER POUND.

To obtain the BEST and CHEAPEST TEAS and COFFEES in ENGLAND, be particular in addressing to **PHILLIPS and COMPANY, TEA MERCHANTS, 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON, E.C.**, as inferior houses are continually copying Phillips and Co.'s Advertisements, for obvious reasons.

A PRICE CURRENT FREE. SUGARS AT MARKET PRICES.

PHILLIPS and CO. send all GOODS CARRIAGE FREE, by their own Vans, within Eight Miles of No. 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, and send Teas, Coffees, and Spices Carriage Free to any Railway Station or Market Town in England, if to the value of Forty Shillings or upwards.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

AT

DEANE'S.

DEANE'S—Celebrated Table Cutlery, every variety of style and finish.

DEANE'S—Electro-plated Spoons and Forks, best manufacture, strongly plated.

DEANE'S—Electro-plate Tea and Coffee Sets, Liqueur Stands, Cruets, Cake Baskets, &c.

DEANE'S—Dish Covers and Hot-water Dishes. Prices of Tin Dish Covers in sets, 18s., 30s., 40s., 63s., 78s.

DEANE'S—Papier Maché Tea Trays in sets, from 21s., new and elegant patterns constantly introduced.

DEANE'S—Bronzed Tea and Coffee Urns, with Loyall's and other patent improvements.

DEANE'S—Copper and Brass Goods, Kettles, Stew and Preserving Pans, Stockpots, &c.

DEANE'S—Moderator and Rock Oil Lamps, a large and handsome assortment.

DEANE'S—Gas Chandeliers, newly-designed patterns in Glass and Bronze—three-light glass from 63s.

DEANE'S—Domestic Baths for every purpose. Bath-rooms fitted complete.

DEANE'S—Fenders and Fire-irons, in all modern and approved patterns.

DEANE'S—Bedsteads in Iron and Brass, with Bedding of superior quality.

DEANE'S—Register Stoves, improved London-made Kitcheners, Ranges, &c.

DEANE'S—Cornices and Cornice-poles, a variety of patterns, French and English.

DEANE'S—Tin and Japan Goods, Iron Ware, and Culinary Utensils.

DEANE'S—Turnery, Brushes, Mats, &c., well made, strong, and serviceable.

DEANE'S—Horticultural Tools, Lawn Mowers, Garden Rollers, Wire-work, &c.

DEANE'S—Harness, Saddles, and Horse Clothing, manufactured on their own premises, and of the very best material.

NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND PRICED FURNISHING LIST GRATIS AND POST FREE.

Established A.D. 1700.

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